

January 22, 2014

Mr. Don West
Environmental Management Support, Inc.
8601 Georgia Avenue, Suite 500
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Mr. West:

I am pleased to submit to you the Northcoast Brownfield Coalition's FY2014 application requesting a \$600,000 Coalition Assessment Grant.

The Northcoast Brownfield Coalition (NBC) is comprised of Cuyahoga County, through the Department of Development (the "County"), the City of Cleveland, through the Department of Economic Development (the "City"), the Cleveland-Cuyahoga County Port Authority (the "Port"), the Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District (NEORS) and the Cuyahoga County Board of Health ("CCBH").

Cuyahoga County Department of Development will be the lead agency for this grant. We are planning on utilizing a significant portion of the grant (90%) on environmental assessments of properties located within the "Opportunity Corridor Area" of our county seat, Cleveland. This area was the subject of a recent Brownfields Area-wide Planning Grant (BAWP). We will assess properties identified in the BAWP report issued in 2013. We will assess a minimum of five sites located in the Opportunity Corridor project area with priority given to sites specifically identified in 2013 report. The remaining 10% of the grant will be utilized for health monitoring and outreach activities in the Opportunity Corridor along with staff training and program reporting to USEPA.

U.S.EPA assessment funds will help continue the momentum begun with the City of Cleveland's 2010-2013 Brownfield Area Wide Planning Grant, which identified that at least 48% or 100 acres of this project site would be classified as brownfields. We are requesting this \$600,000 in assessment grant funds to quantify the environmental contamination and risk to human health and the environment through-out the neighborhoods that make up this project site area, where 78% of the 67,089 residents are minority; 44% are living below the poverty level; and 25% are unemployed.

As requested, please find the following information regarding this grant application:

1. Applicant Identification

Cuyahoga County, Ohio
1701 East 12th Street, 1st Floor
Cleveland, Ohio 44114

DUNS Number: 623945391

Department Of Development Reserve Square 1st Floor
1701 East 12th Street, Cleveland, Ohio 44114
Phone :(216)-443-7260 Fax: (216)-443-7258 Ohio Relay Service 711

2. Funding Requested

Grant Type: Community-wide Assessment

Federal Funds Requested: \$600,000

Contamination: Both

Type of Assessment: Coalition

3. Location

Opportunity Corridor, City of Cleveland, Cuyahoga County, Ohio

4. Contacts

Project Director:

Janise Bayne, CAI Program Manager

1701 East 12th Street, 1st Floor

Cleveland, Ohio 44114

Phone: (216) 698-2574

Fax: (216) 348-4479

E-mail: jbayne@cuyahogacounty.us

Chief Executive:

Edward FitzGerald, County Executive

1701 E. 12th Street, 1st Floor

Cleveland, Ohio 44114

Phone: (216)443-7182

Fax: (216)443-6668

E-mail: efitzgerald@cuyahogacounty.us

5. Date Submitted

January 22, 2014

6. Project Period

Project period will not exceed three years

7. Population

Population of Cuyahoga County: 1,265,111

Population of the City of Cleveland: 390,928

Population of Opportunity Corridor Area: 67,089

8. Special Considerations Checklist

Project is primarily focusing on Phase II assessments.

Core partner of HUD-DOT-EPA Partnership for Sustainable Communities Grant.

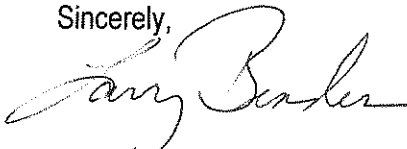
Recipient of an EPA Brownfields Area-Wide Planning Grant.

Community is implementing green remediation plans.

Although the County and the City of Cleveland have been U.S.EPA grant applicants in the past, the need for environmental assessments specific to this project area/ of disadvantaged neighborhoods within the city of Cleveland is particularly crucial to the revitalization efforts in Cleveland, Ohio.

Thank you in advance for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



Larry Benders
Director

Cc: Linda Mangrum & Kelley Moore; U.S. EPA Region 5

Enclosure: Grant Proposal with Attachments

Department Of Development Reserve Square 1st Floor
1701 East 12th Street, Cleveland, Ohio 44114

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Section 1 – Community Need

1.ai. Targeted Community Description

Cuyahoga County is the lead applicant for the Northcoast Brownfield Coalition, whose other members¹ are: the City of Cleveland, Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District, Cleveland-Cuyahoga County Port Authority and the Cuyahoga County Board of Health. By assembling the resources of this Coalition, we will be able to focus resources on communities that would not otherwise be able to access these resources, individually. The Coalition combines the experience of Cuyahoga County in successfully managing USEPA grants in concert with the City of Cleveland's ability to reach and impact disadvantaged neighborhoods along with the technical expertise of the Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District in environmental resource management, the Cuyahoga County Board of Health's emerging work in Health Impact Assessments, and the Cleveland-Cuyahoga County Port Authority's financial resources. Collectively and with the support of the assessment funding, the organization' can drive resources to one of the most impoverished and environmentally impacted areas of our region. Without the collective efforts of the Coalition members, this area would otherwise be unable to benefit from EPA assistance.

Cuyahoga County thrived as a manufacturing center throughout the early twentieth century, but has seen population stagnation and job loss since the 1960s. The City of Cleveland, the county seat and the second-largest city in Ohio, has borne the brunt of these economic trends, seeing population decline from almost 900,000 at its peak in 1960, to fewer than 400,000 today. The Coalition has identified a strategic sector known as the Opportunity Corridor Planning Area in the City of Cleveland as its *Targeted Community* for this grant.

The Opportunity Corridor is a proposed \$330 million boulevard that will connect Cleveland's Interstate system to the University Circle district, one of Cleveland's thriving economic areas. Anchored by the Cleveland Clinic, Case Western Reserve University, and University Hospitals of Cleveland, University Circle is a center of innovation and one of the largest employment centers in Ohio. Unfortunately, the surrounding neighborhoods have not shared in the prosperity – Cleveland's Buckeye-Shaker, Buckeye-Woodhill, Central, Fairfax, Kinsman, and Slavic Village neighborhoods, collectively the Opportunity Corridor Planning Area (*Targeted Community*), have been among the hardest hit by brownfields, blight, foreclosure, and abandonment. The development of the Opportunity Corridor will link these neighborhoods to the Interstate system, downtown, suburban employment centers, and University Circle – both drawing investment in and providing greater opportunities for residents to venture out of these neighborhoods for work and play. This critical new connective infrastructure is expected to open up interest in and access to significant larger scale and strategic land and property redevelopment opportunities that have heretofore been greatly underutilized. These endeavors hold the key to leveraging enormous employment, economic, health, and safety benefits for the targeted community.

The Targeted Community is steeped in Cleveland's cultural, industrial and immigration history. Slavic Village was a center of immigration for Poles and Slavs; the Buckeye neighborhoods were once known as "Little Budapest", due to their Hungarian presence; part of Central was at one time "Big Italy." After the Great Migration in the post-war period, these neighborhoods also attracted a significant African-American presence, as noted in Table 2. These areas are still culturally significant with numerous ethnic festivals and a strong religious presence. "Company towns" grew up in these neighborhoods, as factories and machine shops anchored small neighborhoods. As these companies moved out or closed, brownfields were left behind in the middle of neighborhoods, forcing residents to confront not only the loss or relocation of their

jobs but also the poisonous presence of abandoned factories and contaminated land. Over time, these areas have been abandoned by residents and businesses, earning the nickname “the Forgotten Triangle.” The proposed Opportunity Corridor has created a chance to reverse these trends. The City of Cleveland completed an USEPA-funded Area Wide Planⁱⁱ in 2013, titled “Cleveland Opportunity Corridor Area Wide Plan” (The Plan) for the redevelopment of these brownfields. This assessment funding is a critical first step for implementation of The Plan.

Table 1a.ii.: Demographic Information

Demographic	Targeted Community	Cleveland	Cuyahoga County	Ohio	National
Population ⁱⁱⁱ	67,089	390,928	1,265,111	11,544,225	313,914,040
Unemployment % ^{iv}	25.02%	11.60%	7.50%	6.20%	6.00%
Poverty % ^v	44.0%	34.20%	17.70%	15.40%	14.90%
Minority ^{vi}	78.9%	62.70%	35.20%	16.60%	22.10%
Median Household Income ^{vii}	\$25,917.16	\$26,556	\$43,861	\$48,246	\$53,046

Table 2: Target Community Race Statistics^{viii}

Neighborhood	Hispanic, percent, 2010	Non-Hispanic White, percent, 2010	Non-Hispanic Black, percent, 2010	Non-Hispanic Asian, 2010
Broadway-Slavic Village	5.39	41.7	52.23	0.24
Buckeye-Shaker Square	1.43	13.68	81.25	3.41
Buckeye-Woodhill	0.81	2.66	96.33	0.03
Central	1.67	4.06	93.86	0.18
Fairfax	0.59	2.53	95.78	0.8
Kinsman	0.83	2.18	96.71	0.14

1.a.iii. Brownfields

Brownfields are proximate to and significantly impact the Targeted Community. The neighborhoods, listed in Table 2, sprouted up around factory sites. Today, abandoned industrial facilities frequently are found amidst residential houses in these neighborhoods. With two multi-track rail corridors bifurcating the area for the industrial sites, many times residents are separated from transit options that share the rail lines. Residents in the Targeted Community confront brownfields every day as they go about their business. As a result, residents lack employment opportunities, leading to poverty and unemployment, and suffer significantly poorer health outcomes.

The Plan found that brownfields are omnipresent and extensive in this area. The City of Cleveland and over 100 individual stakeholders, including representatives of our Coalition, community groups and residents, developed the Opportunity Corridor Area-Wide Plan with assistance from USEPA. The Plan focused on 225 acres of potential development sites in the Central and Kinsman neighborhood surrounding the Corridor route. The Plan examined the current and historic uses and regulatory databases, and concluded that over 100 acres, approximately 48% of the total acreage, would be classified as brownfields. Over 77 acres (37%) were considered high-risk or under regulatory enforcement. The Plan estimated that over

\$18.5 million will be required to completely assess, remediate, and ready the sites for redevelopment.

The effect of the brownfields in this area is substantial, both real and perceived. The presence of brownfields in the area has had a negative effect on the economic and health conditions of the residents in these neighborhoods, evidenced by the poverty and employment figures in Table 1 above and the health impacts in Table 3 below. It is also a contributing factor to increased poverty and crime and a decrease in the overall quality of life. The perception of crime and cost associated with these brownfields has deterred development in the *Targeted Community*.

1.a.iv. Cumulative Environmental Issues

The residents of the Opportunity Corridor are disproportionately affected by environmental issues. The Plan identified 55% of the total study area as vacant land, the legacy of decades of disinvestment, and abandonment. As shown in Tables 1 and 2, the population in the targeted community is largely low-income and minority. A Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Survey, conducted from 2005 to 2009 within Cleveland, has shown that the residents in this targeted community have higher health risks and suffer more from negative environmental factors than the general Cleveland population. The abandoned industrial sites have not only contributed to the poor health of the residents but have also attracted criminal activities including arson, drug dealing and prostitution, which represent a danger to residents, especially children, who have easy access to them. Illegal dumping is often rife in these neighborhoods, exposing residents to contaminated materials from across the region. As a result, the residents of this community struggle to achieve environmental justice, as landowners and developers from outside the community abandon buildings and waste, leaving the residents to address the clean-up.

1.b. Impacts on Targeted Community

Abandonment of brownfields and the resulting disinvestment from the area have disproportionately harmed the Opportunity Corridor. The lack of economic activity has led to rampant poverty in the neighborhood and disinvestment has reduced access to healthy options and safe recreational activities. As a result, these areas have suffered significant negative health impacts. Based on Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Surveys conducted on over 6,300 Cleveland residents from 2005 to 2009, by the Cleveland Department of Public Health and Cuyahoga County Board of Health, (coalition members), the results show that residents in our Targeted Community neighborhoods suffer disproportionately in incidences of obesity, asthma, tobacco use, and diabetes:

Table 3: Health Risk Determinants^{ix}

Health Risks	Targeted Project Area *	Cleveland	Cuyahoga County	Ohio	US
Obesity	32.7-40.4%%	35.00%	26.30%	29.80%	26.90%
Asthma	15.60%	14.00%	10.20%	9.90%	8.80%
Tobacco Use	33.2-37.5%	31.30%	15%	20.30%	17.90%
Diabetes	11.3-13.9%	13.90%	10.10%	10.10%	8.30%

This low-income, ethnically diverse population is disproportionately vulnerable to the negative effects of brownfields. Asthma rates for residents in our targeted community are almost double the national average. Rates were twice as high among females (16.8%) than males (7.4%). In addition, Cleveland adults with asthma are 74% more likely to have high blood pressure and

84% more likely to be obese. Health risks for Clevelanders who suffer from diabetes include high blood pressure, asthma, obesity and less physical activity. Diabetes is especially prevalent among African Americans, who, as noted in Table 2 represent 52-96% of the population in the neighborhoods of *this Targeted Community*.

1.c. Financial Need

Local economic conditions support the Coalition's funding need. Even before the 2008 recession, Cuyahoga County faced economic challenges including foreclosures and job loss. With property taxes constituting the bulk of the County's tax base, decreased property values caused by foreclosures and abandonment have significantly impacted its fiscal resources. The City of Cleveland has suffered from decreased income tax collections, while both the City and the County have seen a significant reduction in State and Federal funding. Population growth has been falling for decades as urban sprawl has seen jobs and population move to surrounding counties. Cleveland's population has fallen by almost 100,000 since 2000 alone and by nearly 500,000 since 1960. As leaders in industrial development, Cuyahoga County and the City of Cleveland have been struggling with industrial decline and disinvestment for decades. Moreover, the scale of the brownfield problem in this Targeted Community requires additional assistance. The Brownfield Area-Wide Plan identified over \$2.6 million in Assessment funding needed to move forward development in the 225-acre study area alone.

Brownfield challenges have especially affected the economy in the Opportunity Corridor. Disinvestment and abandonment have been disproportionately high in the neighborhoods within the Opportunity Corridor. As indicated in the Area-Wide Plan, close to 50% of the land parcels in the *Targeted Community* area are vacant. As noted in Table 1, poverty and unemployment rates are very high in the neighborhoods. The disinvestment in the area and shuttering of factories has left many individuals with low skills unemployed and, with factories relocating to suburban and exurban areas that lack public transportation access, a lack of availability of low-skilled jobs. This has, in turn, reduced the local tax base. The high cost of brownfield remediation has discouraged local development and increased blight substantially. The City of Cleveland Department of Building and Housing indicates that over 10,000 structures require demolition in the City alone. The 225 acres surveyed in the Area-Wide Plan found a total of 183 buildings, 47 (25%) of which are vacant/abandoned. This extensive burden is borne both by the municipal budget and by the residents who are forced to confront unsafe, abandoned structures on a daily basis.

Section 2- Project Description and Feasibility of Success

2.a.i. Project Description/Alignment with Development Goals

The project will fund Phase I and Phase II assessments to position and support the redevelopment of properties in the Targeted Community. Cleveland's first EPA-funded *Brownfield Area-Wide Plan* (the Plan) was a community-supported initiative focused on 225 acres in the City of Cleveland that will be made accessible by the development of the Opportunity Corridor, a major roadway infrastructure investment. The Plan provisionally divided these areas into multiple "super-blocks," the revitalization of the area these "super blocks" are located in is one of the key goals of the proposal. This Assessment grant funding is critical to moving this revitalization process forward. Planning surveys have helped categorize the future development sites, but only Phase I and Phase II Assessments can provide the information necessary for the Coalition partners and developers to identify and prioritize properties for remediation and redevelopment. *The Assessment Project will position properties*

and support projects that meet the redevelopment, land use, and sustainability goals that have been identified in the Area-Wide Plan. In assembling The Plan, input was solicited from a variety of stakeholders including residents, businesses, and community groups, to help steer the redevelopment concepts. Partners included the Cuyahoga Metropolitan Housing Authority, Environmental Health Watch (a public health advocacy organization) and two community development corporations, Burton Bell Carr Development, Inc. and Buckeye Area Development Corp. A series of community meetings and design charrettes were held with institutional stakeholders, businesses and residents. Over 100 individuals participated in developing the following planning and livability principles:

Strategic Assembly of Land: Assembly and reactivation of vacant land into large development tracts. Acquisition and assembly procedures will be created that will ensure that land assembly efforts adhere to principles of environmental justice. Development guidelines will be developed with the assistance of our local environmental justice organization (Environmental Health Watch)^x to assist in providing community outreach so that redevelopment will happen in a sustainable and equitable way.

Creating Complementary Connections: The Opportunity Corridor has to be more than a bypass. The creation of complementary transit, bicycle, and pedestrian networks is critical to promoting the infrastructure investment as a neighborhood catalyst for development and growth.

Long-term Sustainable Strategies: Development should be prioritized and implemented in a manner that preserves the environment, correcting the decades of environmental damage that has scarred these neighborhoods. Strategies that will be implemented in the redevelopment plan include stormwater management, lighting strategies to minimize light pollution, and LEED-based construction and planning strategies.

Phase I and Phase II Assessments will be performed on targeted development parcels as part of the Assessment Project to categorize targeted land assembly sites and prioritize them for redevelopment. As a result of our Assessments, remediation strategies and costs will be identified to align developers and funding for redevelopment. *The Assessment Project will assemble properties and implement the remediation and creation of “shovel-ready” development sites that the Coalition can target for redevelopment.* Cuyahoga County and the City of Cleveland lack “shovel-ready” development sites of substantial size. The creation of these “superblocks” will provide sites of this scale, attracting jobs and investment. Many businesses, warehouses, production facilities and distribution centers have located in suburban and exurban locations outside our county/region where greenfields are readily available. Many of the jobs in those facilities are working-class, low to mid-skill jobs that were the foundation of the neighborhood economy decades ago. Many of these exurban sites lack transportation options for the residents of the Opportunity Corridor neighborhoods, furthering the cycle of poverty and unemployment. Development of the Opportunity Corridor Superblocks will make similar land available in the City of Cleveland and create job opportunities for the local residents in the neighborhoods in which they live. The Coalition will work with the development community and provide resources to leverage private funding to create jobs and redevelopment opportunities in Cleveland that align with the development goals outlined in the Area-Wide Plan.

2.a.ii. Project Management Approach

Cuyahoga County, as lead applicant and a former recipient of three Community-Wide Assessment grants, has established policies and procedures to successfully manage this grant. The overall site selection strategy the County uses focuses on sites that possess the greatest potential to move beyond the assessment phase and into the redevelopment phase. Eligible

applicants to the County are community development corporations, non-profit organizations, businesses, property owners, and for-profit developers. The County will use its established application process, which includes data needed to perform health monitoring activities, for all project sites requesting assistance through this grant. The County has experience administering this assessment program, using both USEPA resources and the resources of our Coalition partners. The County maintains an application for assistance that is publicly available on the website^{xi}. As developers and property owners position property in this targeted community for redevelopment, they can apply to the County for funding to assist with the assessments necessary to prepare these sites.

These Applications also require: general information about the project, the type of assistance requested, the rationale for the project, contact information, property and ownership information, a brief historical statement about the uses of the site, and proposed redevelopment plans. A support letter from the City Council member is required. The County will process requests for eligibility determination through our assigned USEPA project manager prior to procuring services for applicant. The Coalition will not provide assistance to applicants that are responsible or potentially responsible for the contamination at a site. Upon eligibility determination, the County will require notification to the Community Development Organization in the area the project is located in. This requirement will initiate the Coalition's "community notice" requirement for each project. A review committee representing all coalition members will review all eligible incoming applications based on the selection criteria in Section 2.a.iii below.. The funds are not sub granted to applicants; rather, the County enters into a contract directly with an Ohio Voluntary Action Program Certified Professional, which makes access to our assessment grant funds seamless and efficient to the applicant. The county will initiate a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) process to secure qualified Certified Professionals for this grant. The county has successfully secured a total of 15 consultants for its EPA-funded grant program through four RFQ's since 2003. It typically secures 3 to 5 firms qualified to perform the assessments.

2.a.iii. Project Prioritization, Selection and Site Access Processes

The Area-Wide Plan has prioritized areas for assessment and redevelopment. The plan estimates that the total assessment funding required for addressing the need in the Opportunity Corridor at over \$2.6 Million. Careful prioritizing will effectively utilize the \$600,000 requested in USEPA funds to address those sites. The Plan identified and classified many of the brownfield sites in the Opportunity Corridor Target Area. The Coalition proposes to move forward with the assessment of these sites to prepare them for remediation. Properties will be targeted for assessment based on several characteristics:

Site Access/Assembly – Assessments will be prioritized in areas where the Coalition has access and ability to consolidate parcels in order to maximize opportunities for leveraging funding.

Development Interest – Coalition partners will work with the local development community and community development corporations to identify sites with maximum opportunity for redevelopment. These entities can assist in providing and securing the necessary capital and investment to move projects forward through remediation and redevelopment.

Expected Remediation – Sites that appear to have manageable remediation costs and a green remediation strategy will be prioritized in order to maximize scarce resources for redevelopment.

Community Input – Local development partners and stakeholders will be consulted to identify project sites of particular interest to the Opportunity Corridor community in an effort to quickly

triage sites that negatively affect the neighborhood, health and environment. Neighborhood identified priority sites will receive extra weight.

Environmental/Health Conditions – The Plan categorized properties by the current level of suspected risk to health and the environment, based on an analysis of public records, such as tanks, spills, and use. Properties that are considered to contribute a higher risk of environmental or health problems will be prioritized for redevelopment.

Access - When the Coalition or stakeholder partners control sites, they will provide access. Otherwise, the interested developer will be responsible for securing access. Inaccessible sites will not be prioritized.

2.b. Task Description

Cuyahoga County will expend 90% of the funding to conduct Phase I and Phase II Assessments of prioritized sites in the targeted community. The remaining 10% of funds will be utilized for Community Outreach, Health Monitoring and Staff Development activities.

Table 4: Task Budget

	Tasks					
	1	2	3	4	5	TOTAL
	Hazardous Substance Assessment Budget					
Budget Categories	Phase I Assessments	Phase II Assessments	Community Outreach	Health Monitoring	Travel-Training/Grant Reporting	Total
Contractual	\$50,000	\$220,000		\$15,000		\$285,000
Non-Contractual			\$500			\$500
Personnel					\$14,500	\$14,500
Petroleum Products Assessment Budget						
Contractual	\$50,000	\$220,000		\$15,000		\$285,000
Non-Contractual			\$500			\$500
Personnel					\$14,500	\$14,500
Total Grant Costs	\$100,000	\$440,000	\$1,000	\$30,000	\$29,000	\$600,000

Tasks 1 & 2: Environmental Assessments:

Based on our experience with assessments in Cleveland to date and on the former uses of sites in this targeted community, we anticipate expending an equal amount of USEPA funds on sites with hazardous substance and petroleum products. The County historically has allocated up to \$6,500 per Phase I Assessment and up to \$35,000 per Phase II Assessment. As indicated in the budget table, the County anticipates continuing within these limits with the exception of sites where the threat to human health and the environment is imminent. The County expects to conduct assessments on 10 to 20 sites, with a priority on Phase II Assessments. A site, for grant purposes, is a group of contiguous parcels where the County secures authorization from the owner (s) to conduct the assessment activities. The County will initiate a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) process to secure qualified environmental consultants for this grant. The County has successfully secured a total of 15 consulting firms for our EPA-funded grant program through four RFQs since 2003. We typically secure 3-5 qualified firms. The County provides all supplies and equipment along with staff time to perform all required activities of the grant, with

the exception of reporting costs, as in-kind costs up to \$50,000. As noted in Section 5, the County has completed all former assessment grant awards within the 3-year time period and anticipates completing these tasks within the same grant period.

Task 3: Community Outreach

The County will coordinate with City Council members and community development organizations to assist in publishing and conducting public meetings specifically for this project. This strategy has been proven effective in the past. The County has conducted over 10 public meetings for various projects funded through EPA assessment grant awards, and has received a strong response from stakeholders with up to 100 people attending community meetings. Additionally, the EPA Area-Wide Planning process which defined the goals, objectives, and principles for this funding submission, involved well over 30 public meetings at various sites from 2010 to 2013. The Coalition will build on and expand the synergies created by these community partners during the Area-Wide Planning Process to successfully target and expend USEPA Assessment funds in a manner consistent with the targeted community's vision.

Task 4: Health Monitoring

With the assistance of the Cuyahoga County Board of Health (CCBH), the County has established criteria and protocols that incorporate the health considerations of proposed projects, with the ultimate goal of utilizing Health Impact Assessments (HIA) as the standard practice for health and land use. HIAs can make an important contribution to social equity and the elimination of health disparities, especially when community input is incorporated into the planning, conduct and communications of HIAs. The Coalition will also utilize the system designed by the CCBH through its FY09 coalition grant award, to track community and environmental health through GIS mapping of site features, health data, and select social and economic characteristics. In an effort to more fully characterize the targeted community, the Coalition will expand the database related to the assessment sites. Through the Health Monitoring funds, the Coalition intends to develop a multi-faceted educational program aimed at educating the public regarding brownfield sites and the subsequent redevelopment of the properties and reducing health disparities in the Target Community. As noted in the data referenced in Community Needs, this Targeted Community has a high incidence of health disparities with rates of asthma, diabetes, hypertension and obesity, higher in the Targeted Community than in Cleveland as a whole, Ohio, or the United States.

Task 5: Travel Training and Grant Reporting:

While the Coalition is able to support this project with in-kind staff salary, equipment and supplies, it is requesting funding to assist with funding for representatives from each of our members to attend State and National Brownfield Conferences, not to exceed \$9,000. In addition, the cost of USEPA required reporting staff time will not exceed \$20,000.

2.c. Ability to Leverage

Coalition partners have a proven history of working together to layer their financing into brownfield projects. For example, with its \$1 million FY09 Coalition Assessment grant, the County was able to leverage \$196 million in additional investments for the 34 sites assessed. *The Coalition is in a unique position to leverage additional funds.*

The County has committed \$3,000,000 of Western Reserve Funds to assist eligible entities with the clean-up, acquisition and reutilization costs associated with sites specifically in the Opportunity Corridor project area. Thus far, these programs have loaned \$13.7 million to 17 projects assessed by the County, which has resulted in the creation and/or retention of over 2,400 jobs. In addition, the County has a USEPA Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) grant, primarily utilized

by non-profits and municipalities, which has loaned \$1,880,000 to three projects, and subgranted \$3,100,000 to thirteen projects.

The City of Cleveland has devoted a number of resources to brownfield assessment, remediation, and site redevelopment through its Department of Economic Development and has committed \$1,000,000 to assist with remediation and redevelopment of sites assessed by the Coalition. The City's Neighborhood Development Program provides small grants (up to \$40,000) to neighborhood development organizations that are frequently used to support Phase I or Phase II assessments as part of furthering redevelopment projects. The City's Vacant Property Initiative Program provides funding to support redevelopment of vacant properties, through partially forgivable loans up to \$720,000. The City also has a \$5,000,000 Demolition Loan fund targeted toward the demolition and clearance of obsolete properties. These funds are designed to write down the increased costs that result from obsolete and contaminated properties and could be targeted for contaminated properties.

The Port Development Finance Authority's Infrastructure Financing Program enables developers, cities, and other regional organizations to finance public infrastructure projects, such as streets, roads, underground utilities, sidewalks, street lights, landscaping, and public parking garages. This type of financing is particularly attractive for mixed-use developments and can be financed using tax increment or special assessment as the revenue stream to pay for the public improvements. In addition, the Port is New Markets Tax Credit (NMTC) allocatee and has provided tax credits to multiple redevelopment projects throughout the County.

The tax credits further the spending power of the public's investment, as leveraging it generates additional equity for the project. When awarded, we will also rely on other public and private partners as redevelopment resources. JobsOhio's Revitalization Fund has a mix of grants and loans for up to \$5,000,000 that is focused on redevelopment of brownfields. The Ohio Development Services Agency administers an EPA RLF fund that can provide low-interest loans of up to \$1,000,000 and the Ohio Water Development Authority Brownfield Loan Fund provides loans of up to \$5,000,000. We are also experienced in using HUD Section 108 funds for redevelopment projects. The County, City and Port allow their funding to be leveraged through NMTC and Historic Tax Credits structures. These tax credits attract private investment to further the spending power of the public's investment, as leveraging additional equity into the project.

Section 3- Community Engagement and Partnerships

3.a.i. Plan for Involving the Targeted Community and Other Stakeholders

The Brownfields Area-Wide Plan is the foundation for the proposed project and provides the Coalition with an engaged group of stakeholders who played a key role in identifying and prioritizing projects for redevelopment. The primary goal of the proposed assessment project will be to assess the properties identified in the Plan and move them forward for redevelopment. Stakeholders in the targeted community were engaged in developing this plan, and will continue to be involved throughout the implementation of the assessment grant. Our dynamic Community Relations Action Plan begins with engaging community stakeholders through a public meeting, which will be held upon grant award. The public meeting will describe how the grant award dovetails with the implementation of the Area-Wide Plan. The Plan will be reviewed with the stakeholders and any additional comments or input will be solicited. Stakeholders will be requested to identify any sites or areas for assessment funding. The Coalition will meet monthly or as required to evaluate applications for assessment and review project progress. Stakeholders and residents will be encouraged to participate in these meetings. Cuyahoga County will work

with the applicants to notify the people in the area of each project through the local City and County Council member and CDC networks, which include town hall meetings, newsletters, websites and email lists. Other Coalition members will engage in similar outreach efforts and address the community through regular interaction and participation in public meeting

Our Community Relations Action Plan will address both our English and non-English speaking populations.

The Coalition believes this is the appropriate way to address the diverse community. Direct communication, via the website and direct outreach, will keep the development community aware of opportunities for funding. The Coalition has found that many developers and site selectors first seek assistance via the website. Other developers make direct inquiries to the City or County for assessment assistance, while health concerns are communicated to the local boards of health. On the other hand, residents and small businesses often need a more active outreach and engagement effort. In order to ensure that these interests are adequately addressed, the Coalition will hold the public meetings and maintain regular updates, on at least a quarterly basis, to the local CDCs and environmental health advocacy groups in accordance with the Community Relations Action Plan to ensure that information can be disseminated readily to the public. The implementation of this plan will keep the targeted community involved and communicate to them the progress of the projects.

3.b. Partnerships with Government Agencies

Environmental Oversight Agencies are key partners of the Coalition. Ohio EPA (OEPA) provides environmental oversight and technical assistance on remediation projects. OEPA administers the Voluntary Action Program that governs the remediation of brownfield properties and the issuance of a No Further Action Letter, the ultimate goal of brownfield projects. The Coalition has worked with OEPA and developers to take projects through the Ohio Voluntary Action Program and move redevelopment forward. When projects move beyond the Phase I stage, the Coalition will request Technical Assistance from OEPA to guide sampling events. OEPA's Technical Assistance will provide additional review to ensure that the assessments are conducted in the most cost and time-effective way. Technical Assistance allows OEPA to review the Remedial Action Plan and provide advice regarding potential pitfalls. Through the TA Partnership, the Coalition will continue to leverage its relationship with OEPA to successfully remediate and redevelop brownfields. The City of Cleveland Department of Public Health, the Cuyahoga County Board of Health, and OEPA oversee air, water, and soil quality on a day-to-day basis. Both local agencies are delegated authority over permitting and regulatory responsibilities in the community and regularly monitor the environmental health and welfare of the communities. Additionally, OEPA provides oversight, as well as providing emergency response. This hybrid regulatory scheme allows for day-to-day monitoring by local authorities and OEPA to target its expertise to more difficult or widespread health and environmental issues, and provide a coherent environmental oversight structure.

Health Organizations play a key role in the project. The County Board of Health (CCBH), which is an active and engaged coalition member, will provide the staffing and support to develop and expand the health monitoring task as stated in the attached letter. Through health monitoring, data will be collected on environmental surroundings. Upon receipt of this information, health impacts and placement of redevelopment projects can be further assessed to ensure the health of residents and that their environmental surroundings are not negatively impacted. Remedial Action Plans derived from assessments will be reviewed to ensure that remediation adequately addresses public health and green remediation plans.

Other partners play a key role in the project. The Coalition works with the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) and the Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District (NEORS), which has funding for green infrastructure projects. ODOT is engaged in the planning and implementation of the Opportunity Corridor and is coordinating the \$3330 million transportation investment. NEORS is engaged in a massive effort to improve Cleveland's stormwater infrastructure, investing in gray and green infrastructure projects throughout the region, including the reuse of brownfield sites for stormwater management. USEPA has been a tremendous partner in brownfield redevelopment – providing technical assistance with review of sampling plans or reports, and through providing resources such as Targeted Brownfield Assessments. As a participant in the Strong Cities – Strong Communities Initiative, the City of Cleveland has worked with a Federal Community Solutions Team, with participants from HUD, EDA, EPA, the Army Corps of Engineers, and the Federal DOT to address economic and workforce development challenges in the targeted community. Lastly, Cuyahoga County was a core partner in the Northeast Ohio Area wide Sustainable Communities Grant in the amount of \$4.25 million awarded in 2010. These agencies will play a critical role in developing supportive infrastructure in the Targeted Community and in providing leveraging funds and technical assistance for future development. This collaborative effort will ensure that assessment funding will help leverage a sustainable, living community.

3.c. Partnerships with Community Organizations

Community organizations, noted in Table 5, were involved in the creation of the Area-Wide Plan and will continue to be involved in the implementation of the assessment grant in the targeted community. The Coalition works with a number of community organizations focused on equitable neighborhood revitalization with the expertise, resources and knowledge of planners, community developers, artists, public officials, and the private sector. The Coalition and these organizations will engage residents and businesses located in the areas impacted by the assessment projects funded through the USEPA assessment grant, and assist in soliciting input into the assessment plan and provide feedback on assessment activities. The Brownfield Area-Wide Plan involved many of these organizations in its development. Multiple public meetings and the participation of over 100 people helped ensure that the Plan had a broad basis of community support. Many of the organizations that played a key role in developing the Plan will also assist the implementation of this project.

Table 5: Community Supporters to the Target Community

Organization	Description	Role
Burten Bell Carr Development Inc.	CDC - Central Neighborhood	Identify Redevelopment Parcels; Community Outreach
Buckeye Shaker Square Development Corp.	CDC - Buckeye Neighborhoods	Identify Redevelopment Parcels; Community Outreach
Cleveland Foundation	Funder of Opportunity Corridor Planning	Identify Redevelopment Parcels; Community Outreach; Funding Redevelopment
Cleveland Metro Housing Authority	Local Housing Authority, HQ in Opportunity Corridor Area	Identify Redevelopment Parcels; Community Outreach
Cuyahoga Land Bank	Land Bank	Identify Redevelopment Parcels; Land Assembly
Environmental Health Watch.	Environmental Justice Partnership since 1980	Integrate sustainable redevelopment principles and practices; Community Outreach
George Gund Foundation	Funder of Opportunity Corridor Planning	Project Planning
Greater Cleveland Partnership	Chamber of Commerce	Business Outreach; Funding

Organization	Description	Role
Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority	Local Business, Transit	Community Investment; Transit-Oriented Development
Maingate Development Corp.	CDC – Businesses Central Neighborhood	Business Outreach
Miceli Dairy Products Co.	Local Business, Cheese	Community Investment/Employer
National Development Council	Funder	Funding Redevelopment
Northeast Ohio Area wide Coordinating Agency	Regional Planning	Project Planning; Community Outreach
Slavic Village Development Co.	CDC - Slavic Village Neighborhood	Identify Redevelopment Parcels; Community Outreach
University Circle Inc.	CDC – University Circle	Identify Redevelopment Parcels; Community Outreach
University Hospitals of Cleveland	Health Care Provider, Community Asset	Identify Redevelopment Parcels; Community Outreach; Assist with Health Evaluation

Section 4 - Project Benefits

4.a. Project Benefits: Health and/or Welfare and Environment

The assessment project will have significant benefits for the health and welfare of the individuals impacted by brownfields in the targeted community. Remediation of brownfields and elimination of vacancy will reduce the exposure of individuals to contamination from contaminated sites that are linked to the negative health effects (asthma, diabetes, obesity) identified in Table 2. This assessment project will identify areas with high levels of contaminants and enable the Coalition to marshal resources to reduce exposure through remediation and redevelopment. The health monitoring efforts of the Coalition will facilitate an education effort to ensure that community partners and residents are aware of these sites and to take steps to avoid exposure. The Opportunity Corridor Plan also includes remediation of properties for use as greenspace. These places will provide a safe place for children to play. Clean and safe sites will lead to increased exercise by all residents, which will improve their health and welfare. We expect to see results such as increased life expectancy and decreases in the rates of asthma, diabetes and obesity in the Targeted Community. We will also track properties remediated and redeveloped in a sustainable way.

The assessment project will have significant benefits for the environment. We expect that the majority of sites assessed under the program will move forward into remediation and redevelopment, eliminating hazardous substance and petroleum contamination from the environment. Additionally, the redevelopments along the Corridor will include partnerships with NEORSD, to develop sites for stormwater infrastructure. NEORSD has two green infrastructure investments planned in the area. One has been assisted by assessment funding through the County. These types of projects will significantly reduce stormwater run-off, protect our vulnerable rivers and streams, as well as Lake Erie, and provide safe greenspace for residents to enjoy.

4.b. Environmental Benefits from Infrastructure Reuse/Sustainable Reuse

The City of Cleveland has a robust planning and development effort to encourage sustainable redevelopment. The Brownfield Area-Wide Plan focuses on sustainable redevelopment as a goal of the development plans. *The Plan has created an inclusive development strategy*, including appropriate stormwater management, use of LEED Building Standards, and creation of public greenspace. New developments proposed in Cleveland, must comply with these requirements. New development is subject to Design Review at the neighborhood level prior to review by the

Cleveland City Planning Commission to ensure that new development is sustainable and appropriate for the development area.. Redevelopment of these properties will reactivate existing infrastructure in the urban core, a vastly more environmentally friendly option than construction of new infrastructure in exurban locations. The County will require that assessment applicants demonstrate that projects will meet certain sustainability goals. Redevelopment of properties assembled by the City will be rigorously reviewed for sustainable development. The Coalition takes seriously the responsibility to ensure that environmental justice is considered at all times. A priority of the Opportunity Corridor Plan is the Urban Agriculture Innovation Zone, which is a site where neighborhood residents can grow their own produce. Formerly a brownfield, this site has been successfully reused as a food production site, which addresses the lack of available fresh produce in the area and improves health outcomes of local residents.

4. c. Economic & Non-Economic Benefits

The Coalition believes the Assessment Project will have significant economic benefits. The Environmental Impact Statement, prepared by the Ohio Department of Transportation, indicates that Corridor redevelopment will create more than 1,100 direct permanent jobs, nearly 1,600 direct temporary jobs, and \$548 million in direct payroll, and \$2.2 billion in direct production output. These figures include 546 permanent jobs and 461 temporary jobs created through the industrial and warehousing operations in the central and western sections of the targeted community. In addition, the estimated tax revenue generated by local municipalities and the State of Ohio from the economic impact of the project total \$1.7 million, with an additional \$1.7 million in federal tax dollars generated.

The Coalition has insured that it invests in companies that further environmental justice beyond brownfield cleanup. The Coalition has had three assessment projects in the Opportunity Corridor Area: Orlando Baking, Miceli Dairy, and Green City Growers. These three projects have combined to create/retain over 500 living wage jobs. Almost 50% of the Miceli Dairy workforce is residents of Cleveland and over 50% are minorities. Green City Growers workforce is approximately 80% Cleveland residents and 80% minorities. Assessment funding helped leverage over \$45 million in other funding for these projects. The Miceli Dairy redevelopment includes a biodigester for converting food waste to energy, reducing its energy footprint and eliminating waste from landfills. These projects are just a few examples of the Coalition's ability to leverage financing and secure long-term benefits to the entire community.

The Coalition partners will further local hiring and procurement. The Coalition's contracts will have local subcontracting goals in accordance with applicable Federal and local regulations. Projects funded by the City of Cleveland may involve a Community Benefits Agreement, which identifies minority, female, and local hiring and sustainable development goals. The Coalition encourages local residents to participate in employment opportunities in brownfield redevelopment. Coalition members regularly visit local high schools and colleges to introduce career opportunities in brownfield redevelopment, including the City of Cleveland's partnership with Cleveland State University to fund a class for Cleveland high school students.

Section 5 Programmatic Capability and Past Performance

5.a. Programmatic Capability

Cuyahoga County, the project applicant, is a fully staffed, financially stable organization with established administrative, financial, and programmatic capacity to oversee and implement this grant.

The program manager for this grant will be Janise Bayne, who has successfully developed systems to manage these grants. Ms. Bayne has a MBA and is certified as an Economic

Development Finance Professional by the National Development Council. Ms. Bayne has managed the County's previous assessment grants which were managed, reported and closed-out successfully. She has also cross-trained several members of the Economic Development staff to perform these duties. She is a recognized leader in grant administration and has provided technical assistance to other grant recipients, at EPA's Request. Ms. Bayne has presented on the Coalition's assessment program at multiple conferences. The county can procure services if additional technical expertise is required. The county will procure Ohio Certified Professionals to conduct assessments through a Request for Proposals process. Site applications will be reviewed by all members of the Coalition. Cuyahoga County tracks the following outcomes: total sites, acreage, and assessment type, clean up, and redevelopment. Other metrics include type of reuse: green (recreational, parks and playgrounds); commercial/ industrial; or residential. Cuyahoga County would continue to input all projects into the USEPA ACRES database on a timely basis.

Based on the need of this targeted community, Cuyahoga County anticipates expending the \$600,000 grant within the three-year grant period on 10 to 20 sites, with a priority on those requiring Phase IIs.

5. b. Audit Findings

Cuyahoga County has had no adverse findings from audits conducted under OMB Circular A-133 and has had no "high risk" terms and conditions added to federal grants under agency regulations implementing OMB Circular A-102.

5.c.Past Performance and Accomplishments

Cuyahoga County has a strong track record in managing USEPA assessment funds since 2003. With USEPA and other funding, the county has assessed over 150 sites for a total of over 4,000 acres. The majority of these sites have successfully secured additional public and private monies for further assessment, asbestos abatement, demolition, and environmental remediation. Approximately one-third are slated to complete the Ohio EPA's No Further Action process. These sites have been redeveloped for reuse as expansion sites for small manufacturing companies, start-up bio tech, health care services, permanent supportive housing, community parks, and playgrounds throughout 23 of our 51 municipalities in Cuyahoga County.

Table 6: County Performance

Year	Type of Assessment Grant	Award	Project Status
2003-2006	Community-Wide	\$ 600,000- Hazardous Substance \$ 600,000- Petroleum Products	Completed
2008	Community-Wide Assessment	\$ 200,000- Hazardous Substance \$ 200,000- Petroleum Products	Completed
2009	Coalition Assessment	\$ 500,000- Hazardous Substance \$ 500,000- Petroleum Products	Completed
	Total Amount	\$2,600,000	Completed

The County has met or exceeded goals in all its grants, and produced demonstrable economic development and quality of life outcomes for the communities it serves.

Additionally, the County has received six USEPA Brownfield RLF grant awards, which have been organized as three CAs totaling \$5.1 million. All of these funds have been committed and/or expended on 15 projects. The following outcome table summarizes activities completed with former USEPA assessment funding, which clearly demonstrates the County's ability to set and exceed realistic outputs and outcomes for brownfield assessment grants. The assessments it conducted addressed a variety of community needs with the majority of funding (75-95%)

concentrated within disempowered, economically disadvantaged neighborhoods in Cleveland. These assessments were conducted on schedule, in accordance with the EPA-Approved Work Plans.

Table 7: County Outcomes of former EPA Assessment Grants:

Outcome Table	Expected Outcomes			Actual Outcomes				
Tasks	FY03	FY08	FY09	FY03	FY08	FY09	TOTAL	Results
Phase I Projects	5-15	5-10	9-20	18	20	30	68	Exceed Goal
Phase II Projects	6-10	6-10	6-10	32	10	18	60	Exceed Goal
Asbestos Surveys	Varies	Varies	Varies	2	5	5	12	Positive
BUSTR* Projects	Varies	Varies	Varies	8	1	3	12	Positive
Acres Assessed	50-75	14-20	25-50	208	54	162	424	Exceed Goal
Total Tasks	15-30	10-15	15-25	41	22	32	95	Exceed Goal

* Ohio Bureau of Underground Storage Tank Regulations

Our other accomplishments achieved through USEPA assessment funding include: job creation/retention; redevelopment of vacant or underutilized sites for business expansion business creation special needs residential parks, playgrounds, and medical research facilities.

Table 8: Economic Benefits of former EPA Assessment Grants:

Economic Benefits Achieved	FY03	FY08	FY09	TOTAL USEPA
Jobs Created	291	727	2120	3138
Jobs Retained	2216	1137	751	4104
Remediation/Redevelopment Funds Leveraged	\$94,306,127	\$16,715,000	\$94,227,797	\$205,248,924.00

The County has completed and submitted all annual and quarterly reporting requirements in a timely manner on all our cooperative agreements. In addition, the County has been entering and updating all the information regarding our projects since January 2007 into the USEPA's ACRES and BIT systems on a regular basis.

Footnotes

ⁱ Please see Attachment B- Coalition Members Letters

ⁱⁱ This Plan can be accessed on line: <http://planning.city.cleveland.oh.us/oppCorridor.html>

ⁱⁱⁱ 2012 Population Estimate – U.S. Census Bureau (Factfinder Quick Facts, last revised 11/17/2013).

^{iv} 2012 Percent Unemployment Estimate - U.S. Census Bureau (Factfinder Quick Facts, last revised 11/17/2013).

^v 2008-2012 Percent Persons Below Poverty Level – U.S. Census Bureau (Factfinder Quick Facts, last revised 11/17/2013).

^{vi} 2012 Percent Minority Population Estimate –U.S. Census Bureau (Factfinder Quick Facts, last revised 11/17/2013).

^{vii} 2008-2012 Median Household Income - U.S. Census Bureau (Factfinder Quick Facts, last revised 11/17/2013).

^{viii} 2008-12 American Communities Survey_ U.S. Census Bureau (Factfinder Quick Facts, last revised 11/17/2013).

^{ix} Data Brief Sheets, Behavioural Health Surveys research conducted in 2005 to 2009 by Cleveland Department of Public Health, Cuyahoga County Board of Health in cooperation with Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine. Accessed on the web at: <http://www.prchn.org/BRFSS.aspx>

^x Environmental Health Watch has played a unique role in Northeast Ohio since 1980, they have engaged community residents, businesses and institutions to develop a sustainable intergenerational Environmental Justice Partnership within Cleveland Neighborhoods- SEE ATTACHED SUPPORT LETTER.

^{xi} Applications are in 2 formats depending on property type and applicant type see: http://development.cuyahogacounty.us/pdf_development/en-US/Commercial-Industrial-enduser-application.pdf
http://development.cuyahogacounty.us/pdf_development/en-US/Green_NonProfitEndUserAssmntAppln-2013.pdf

FY14 Northcoast Brownfield Coalition Proposal
List of Attachments:

A: Threshold Criteria

B: Northcoast Brownfield Coalition Member Letters

C: State Environmental Authority Letters

D: Leveraging Commitment Letters

E: Community Organization Support Letters

F: Other Factors Checklist

G: Documentation of HUD-DOT-EPA-PSC Grant

Attachment A: Threshold Criteria

III.C Threshold Criteria for Assessment Grants

III.C.1 Applicant Eligibility

The Coalition Members of Northcoast Brownfield Coalition (NBC) are: Cuyahoga County through the Department of Development (the "County"), the City of Cleveland through the Department of Economic Development (the "City"), the Cleveland-Cuyahoga County Port Authority (the "Port"), the Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District (NEORS) and the Cuyahoga County Board of Health ("CCBH").

Cuyahoga County and the City of Cleveland are General Purpose Units of Local Government.

The Cleveland-Cuyahoga County Port Authority is a Governmental Entity created by the Ohio General Assembly through Ohio Revised Code ("ORC") Chapter 4582.

The Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District is a Governmental Entity created by the Cuyahoga County Court of Common Pleas, via a Court Order, in 1972.

The Cuyahoga County Board of Health is a Governmental Entity, separate from the County, created by the Ohio General Assembly through ORC Chapter 3709.

Attachment B presents eligibility documentation.

III.C .2 Letter from the State or Tribal Environmental Authority

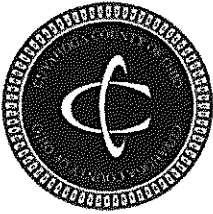
Attachment C contains support letters for our 2014 Coalition Assessment Grant Proposal from the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (Ohio EPA) support and the Ohio State Fire Marshal's Bureau of Underground Storage Tank Regulations (BUSTR).

III.C.3 Community Involvement

The Coalition Members, listed above, intend to involve the targeted community stakeholders throughout the entire grant project period. Upon award of the grant, we will initially engage community stakeholders through a public meeting. This meeting will introduce the coalition members and describe the grant award along with describing Coalition's progress toward implementation of the Area-Wide Plan. All community stakeholders will be requested to identify any sites or areas which they would like the Coalition to focus assessment funding efforts. These requests will be made prior to, during, and after this meeting throughout the grant period.

Our community support organizations listed in table 5 (in section 3 of proposal) have agreed to actively support this project. Their commitments detailed in their support letters (*Attachment E*) include: assisting the project goals through community outreach (meeting notifications, meeting locations, and communications); community investment; and overseeing the integration of health and sustainable redevelopment principles into the overall redevelopment of the Opportunity Corridor Area.

Attachment B: Northcoast Brownfield Coalition Member Letters



January 9, 2014

Mr. Don West
Environmental Management Support, Inc.
8601 Georgia Avenue, Suite 500
Silver Spring, MD 20910

RE: Cuyahoga County NorthCoast Brownfield Coalition Member

Dear Mr. West:

Cuyahoga County, as an originating member of the NorthCoast Brownfield Coalition, commits to be the "lead" eligible entity and grantee in this FY14 Coalition Assessment Grant Proposal on behalf of the Northcoast Brownfield Coalition.

Cuyahoga County, through our Department of Economic Development, established a Brownfield Community Assessment Initiative (CAI) program to assist in environmental assessments of eligible properties located in Cuyahoga County. The NorthCoast Brownfield Coalition utilizes this program to assist brownfield projects county wide to meet the respective outcomes of increasing economic reuse of sites, creating economic benefits such as job creation and retention, reuse of infrastructure; community objectives such as green sustainable reuse of former industrial commercial sites along with beneficial outcomes to the residents.

This grant opportunity is a primary source of funding for environmental assessment investigation of suspected brownfield properties within the Opportunity Corridor project area. This 225-acre area was noted to contain over 139 acres of brownfields. Currently, in this seven neighborhood area, there are 75,000 residents with an average median household income of \$18,143. The unemployment levels are at 25% with poverty rates at over 45%.

In addition to our continued membership in the coalition, Cuyahoga County will provide our "in kind" support of county staff to perform all needed responsibilities of the grant.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Edward FitzGerald", is written over a horizontal line.

Edward FitzGerald
Cuyahoga County Executive

Department of Development, Reserve Square, 1st Floor
1701 E. 12th Street, Cleveland, Ohio 44114
(216) 443-7260, FAX (216) 443-7258, Ohio Relay Service 711



City of Cleveland

Frank G. Jackson, Mayor

Department of Economic Development
Tracey A. Nichols, Director
601 Lakeside Avenue, Room 210
Cleveland, Ohio 44114-1070
216/664-2406
www.cleveland-oh.gov

January 13, 2014

Larry Benders
Director of Development
Cuyahoga County
Reserve Square, First Floor
1701 E. 12th St.
Cleveland OH 44114

RE: Northcoast Brownfield Coalition

Dear Director Benders:

The City of Cleveland is a founding member of the Northcoast Brownfield Coalition and has been pleased to support the Coalition's efforts to assess and remediate brownfield throughout Cuyahoga County and the City of Cleveland.

On November 25, 2013, Cleveland City Council passed Ordinance No. 1546-13, authorizing the renewal of the City of Cleveland's membership in the Coalition. I am pleased to continue to participate in this valuable endeavor.

The City of Cleveland is a municipal corporation under the laws of the State of Ohio and is thus a local government as that term is defined in 40 CFR 31.3. Accordingly, the City is an eligible applicant as a General Purpose Unit of Local Government as required by Section III.A. of the Assessment Grant RFP.

The City of Cleveland confirms its continued membership in the Northcoast Brownfield Coalition and looks forward to the successful implementation of the grant.

Regards,


Tracey A. Nichols, Director
Department of Economic Development

January 21, 2014

Janise Bayne
Senior Development Finance Analyst
Cuyahoga County Department of Development
1701 East 12th Street, 1st Floor
Cleveland, OH 44114

RE: Support for Northcoast Brownfield Coalition's USEPA Assessment Grant Application


Dear Ms. Bayne,

On behalf of the Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District (Sewer District), a member of the Northcoast Brownfield Coalition, I offer our support for the Northcoast Brownfield Coalition's USEPA Assessment Grant application. An award of these assessment funds from USEPA will allow the Coalition to continue to be effective in their efforts to promote brownfield redevelopment and economic growth across the county.

The Sewer District provides clean water services to Cleveland and 61 Member Communities across Cuyahoga, Lake, Lorain, and Summit Counties. Among the Sewer District efforts to improve regional water quality is the implementation of our innovative approach to reduce the discharge of raw sewage to the environment in the form of combined sewer overflows. The Sewer District is deploying a combination of traditional gray infrastructure, including storage tunnels and pumps, and green infrastructure. The green infrastructure program focuses on restoring stormwater management functions to Cleveland's urban landscape by controlling stormwater before it enters the combined sewer system. To make the green infrastructure program a success, the Sewer District is repurposing vacant parcels into stormwater management features. The assessment funds under the USEPA grant ensures vacant and brownfield parcels are reusable for stormwater management. They are an essential part of realizing the benefits of green infrastructure in Northeast Ohio.

The Sewer District will take an active role in assisting the Northcoast Brownfield Coalition to identify projects for assessment funds. With the extent and land intensive nature of our green infrastructure program the Sewer District has the capacity to help with project identification and implementation that will drive reuse of brownfield properties. We support the Coalition's USEPA Assessment Grant application and the numerous opportunities it brings to our region.

Sincerely,



Kellie C. Rotunno, P.E., BCCE
Director of Engineering and Construction



January 14, 2014

Larry Benders
Director of Development
Reserve Square
1701 E. 12th Street, 1st Floor
Cleveland, OH 44114

Dear Director Benders:

The Cleveland-Cuyahoga County Port Authority is pleased to continue its membership in the North Coast Brownfield Coalition with Cuyahoga County, the City of Cleveland, Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District and the Cuyahoga County Board of Health. This unique partnership affords us the opportunity to further the substantial work that the Coalition has completed to strengthen the environmental and business climate in Cuyahoga County.

The Port continually seeks opportunities to tackle challenges tied directly to jobs, quality of place, and environmental sustainability through innovative partnerships such as this coalition. A key component to the County's brownfield strategy is to characterize and assess a variety of brownfield sites contaminated with hazardous substances and/or petroleum so they can be cleaned up and redeveloped. The Coalition has provided a critical up-front service needed to jump start new projects. As a leading partner in development projects throughout the county and the City of Cleveland, the Port depends on the Assessment Program to provide necessary due diligence for financing projects and to move environmental initiatives forward.

We look forward to our continued relationship with our partners in the North Coast Brownfield Coalition.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "William D. Friedman".

William D. Friedman
President & Chief Executive Officer

CUYAHOGA COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

YOUR TRUSTED SOURCE FOR PUBLIC HEALTH INFORMATION

January 15, 2014

Mr. Larry Benders
Director of Development
Reserve Square
1701 E. 12th Street – 1st Floor
Cleveland, Ohio 44114

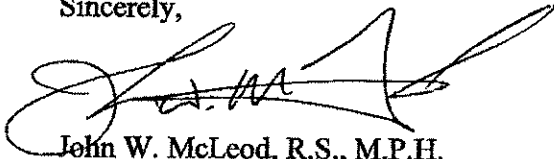
Dear Director Benders:

The Cuyahoga County Board of Health hereby affirms our commitment and participation in the Northcoast Brownfield Coalition. This unique partnership with the City of Cleveland, Cuyahoga County and the Cleveland-Cuyahoga Port Authority, Northeastern Ohio Regional Sewer District positions citizens, businesses and industry to best gain in an environmentally sound manner by building on our past strength.

We will continue contributions of public health expertise, addressing the very real issues of risk exposure and risk communication necessary in the evolution of former brownfield sites into viable productive properties. Clear recognition on the part of public health agencies and our respective partnerships with planning and development agencies enable metropolitan Cuyahoga County to efficiently and protectively revitalize for future sustainable growth.

We appreciate the opportunity to work directly as a key component of the brownfield coalition. Public environmental health initiatives align closely with coalition objectives of providing clean affordable land for reuse while eliminating blight, preserving and creating green space which in turn, creates economic and environmental benefits.

Sincerely,



John W. McLeod, R.S., M.P.H.
Director
Environmental Public Health

Attachment C: State Environmental Authority Letters



John R. Kasich, Governor
Mary Taylor, Lt. Governor
Craig W. Butler, Interim Director

January 13, 2014

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 5
Brownfields and Early Action Section
ATTN: Linda Mangrum and Kelley Moore
77 West Jackson Blvd.
Mail Code SM-7J
Chicago, IL 60604-3507

RE: Northcoast Brownfield Coalition Community-Wide Assessment Grant Proposal

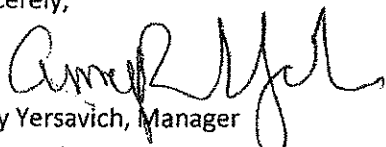
Dear Ms. Mangrum and Ms. Moore:

I am pleased to offer Ohio EPA's support for the Northcoast Brownfield Coalition Community-Wide Assessment Grant proposal. The Coalition, consisting of the Cuyahoga County Department of Development, the City of Cleveland Department of Economic Development, the Cleveland-Cuyahoga County Port Authority, the Cuyahoga County Board of Health, and the Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District, is applying for a Brownfields Community-wide Assessment Grant from the United States Environmental Protection Agency in the amount of \$600,000. We have worked with the Northcoast Brownfield Coalition in the past and hope to be able to provide support to this Coalition under the Assessment, Cleanup and Revolving Loan Fund Grant program established by the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfield Revitalization Act (P.L. 107-118).

The funding the Coalition is requesting will be used to complete Phase I and Phase II assessments and remedial planning at properties contaminated with petroleum and/or hazardous substances. The Coalition anticipates spending the majority of the funds within the City of Cleveland, with a specific concentration on the Opportunity Corridor, which was the subject of a U.S. EPA Brownfield Area-wide Planning Grant. Specific sites have not been identified, but according to the City of Cleveland, there are approximately 1,030 acres of vacant land that is zoned for commercial and industrial use. The public perceives many of these properties to be contaminated, thereby limiting the potential for redevelopment. Abandoned properties have led to decreasing property values negatively impacting the ability of schools to receive money to fund education. If awarded, this funding would help businesses reuse brownfields, but also help educate community members about the condition of nearby vacant businesses and industrial properties.

We look forward to working with the Northcoast Brownfield Coalition and U.S. EPA on this project. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 614-644-2285.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Amy Yersavich', written over the printed name.

Amy Yersavich, Manager

Ohio Environmental Protection Agency

Site Assistance and Brownfield Revitalization

cc: Larry Benders, Director, Cuyahoga County Department of Development

Laura Clark, Senior Development Finance Analyst, USEPA RLF Program Manager, Cuyahoga County

Department of Development

Rod Beals, Ohio EPA, DERR/NEDO

Nancy Zikmanis, Ohio EPA, DERR/NEDO



Department of Commerce

Division of State Fire Marshal
John R. Kasich, Governor
David Goodman, Director

January 9, 2014

Ms. Linda Mangrum
U.S. EPA Brownfield Contact, Region 5
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
77 West Jackson Boulevard
Mail Code SM-7J
Chicago, IL 60604-3507

**Subject: Letter of Support/Commitment for the Northeast Brownfield Coalition's U.S. EPA
Brownfield Community Wide Assessment Grant Proposal**

Dear Ms. Mangrum:

This letter acknowledges that the Northeast Brownfield Coalition notified the Office of the Fire Marshal, Bureau of Underground Storage Tank Regulations (BUSTR) the Northeast Brownfield Coalition's grant request to U.S. EPA for \$600,000 grant to provide assessment for a community-wide brownfield assessment for petroleum and hazardous substance wastes. The Northeast Brownfield Coalition is comprised of the Cuyahoga County Department of Development, the Cleveland-Cuyahoga County Port Authority, the Cuyahoga County Board of Health and the Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District. The grant will be used for the assessment of vacant, abandoned or otherwise underutilized properties located within Cuyahoga County. The Coalition anticipates that the majority of the funds will be spent within the City of Cleveland, with a specific concentration on the Opportunity Corridor, which was the subject of a USEPA Brownfield Areawide Planning Grant.

The City of Cleveland poverty percentage is nearly twice the national average and, in 2010, was identified as the third poorest city in the United States. Coupled with poverty, the population of the City has hit a 100 year low with a decline of over 8% in the last decade. The City and County are faced with a growing number of abandoned properties that exacerbate the vicious cycle of economic decline. According to the City, there are approximately 1,030 acres of vacant land that is zoned commercial or industrial use; however, the public perceives many of these properties as contaminated, limiting the potential for redevelopment. The impact of brownfields in Cuyahoga County predominantly affects the urban core and inner-ring suburbs, which historically are the industrial areas. Environmental assessment conducted under the grant could help businesses reuse brownfields, but also educates community members about the conditions of nearby vacant buildings and industrial properties. Assessments will help evaluate the risks to sensitive populations and areas, especially along the shores of Lake Erie and the Cuyahoga River and its tributaries.

Bureau of Underground Storage Tank Regulations
8895 East Main Street
Reynoldsburg, OH 43068 USA

614/752 7938
Fax 614/752 7942
TTY/TDD 800/750 0750
www.com.ohio.gov

An Equal Opportunity Employer and Service Provider

Page 2
January 9, 2014
U.S. EPA, Region 5

I am pleased to offer BUSTR's support for the Northeast Brownfield Coalition Brownfield Assessment Grant proposal. We look forward to working with the Cuyahoga County Department of Development, the Cleveland-Cuyahoga County Port Authority, the Cuyahoga County Board of Health and the Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District and the U.S.EPA on this project.

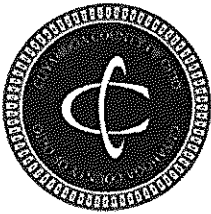
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Verne A. Ord". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Verne" being more prominent than the last name "Ord".

Verne A. Ord
Assistant Chief – BUSTR
Division of State Fire Marshal
Ohio Department of Commerce

xc: Site File
Larry Bender, Cuyahoga County Department of Development

Attachment D: Leveraging Commitment Letters



January 9, 2014

Mr. Don West
Environmental Management Support, Inc.
8601 Georgia Avenue, Suite 500
Silver Spring, MD 20910

RE: Cuyahoga County Western Reserve Fund

Dear Mr. West:

Cuyahoga County is interested in furthering the efforts of the Northcoast Brownfield Coalition, and as County Executive, I am committed to the economic growth and vitality of our residents.

To that end, I created the \$100 million Western Reserve Fund, a first-of-its-kind initiative designed to deliver jobs and prosperity to Greater Cleveland. The Western Reserve Fund is structured as a revolving loan fund that provides gap financing to job creating and job retaining projects in the county. Congruent with the efforts of the Northcoast Brownfield Coalition, the Western Reserve Fund is collaborative and inclusive, binding regional assets together to augment strengths, repair weaknesses and embrace economically isolated populations.

Therefore, I have directed the County Department of Development to set aside up to \$3 million, from the County's \$100 million Western Reserve Fund, to assist with the cleanup and redevelopment of eligible properties within the Opportunity Corridor.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Edward FitzGerald". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first and last names being more prominent.

Edward FitzGerald
Cuyahoga County Executive



City of Cleveland

Frank G. Jackson, Mayor

Department of Economic Development
Tracey A. Nichols, Director
601 Lakeside Avenue, Room 210
Cleveland, Ohio 44114-1070
216/664-2406
www.cleveland-oh.gov

January 13, 2014

Mr. Don West
Environmental Management Support, Inc.
8601 Georgia Avenue, Suite 500
Silver Spring, MD 20910

**RE: Northcoast Brownfield Coalition –
City of Cleveland Leveraging Investment**

Dear Mr. West:

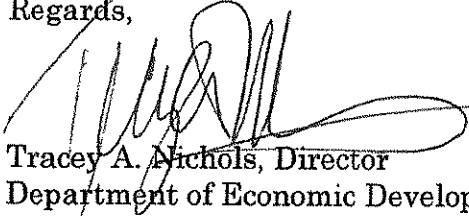
The City of Cleveland is an active participant in furthering the efforts of the Northcoast Brownfield Coalition. The City's Opportunity Corridor Area-Wide Plan, funded by a USEPA Pilot Grant, is the basis for the proposed assessment project. The NBC's proposed assessment project will be a key element of the first stage of the implementation of the Area-wide Plan. In order to take projects from planning through assessment, remediation, and redevelopment, the City of Cleveland has several resources.

The City's Vacant Property Initiative program provides partially forgivable loans of up to \$720,000, specifically designed to overcome barriers in the full reuse of abandoned or underutilized commercial and industrial properties in Cleveland. Additionally, the City has recently closed on a \$5 Million Demolition Loan fund from the State of Ohio, providing funds for demolition and asbestos abatement of abandoned structures in target areas of the City. Both these resources are designed to eliminate environmental hazards and obsolete buildings and return brownfield sites into productive use.

Further, the City's Industrial Commercial Land Bank provides a resource to accept vacant, tax-delinquent and abandoned properties into the City's ownership. These properties are then remediated and marketed for use. Over 100 acres are currently on the market as a result of the ICLB. Proceeds of sale are recycled into remediation and redevelopment of future projects. Several of the proposed development areas may be processed through the ICLB.

In order to further leverage USEPA's investment in this project, the City of Cleveland will commit \$1,000,000 to eligible projects in the Opportunity Corridor area, subject to underwriting and appropriation. The City believes strongly in the redevelopment of this area and is prepared to make the significant investments necessary to ensure that these projects are a success.

Regards,



Tracey A. Nichols, Director
Department of Economic Development



January 14, 2014

Larry Benders
Director of Development
Reserve Square
1701 E. 12th Street, 1st Floor
Cleveland, OH 44114

Dear Director Benders:

The Cleveland-Cuyahoga County Port Authority ("The Port") is in full support of the North Coast Brownfield Coalition Assessment Grant Application. Since 1993, the Port, as a leading catalyst for economic development and job creation in our region, has strategically provided cost-effective development finance programs for developers, companies, municipalities and nonprofit agencies. The Port is well equipped for this critical role, with the expertise and statutory powers to be both resourceful and civic-minded.

The Port has financial capabilities to assist "qualifying" brownfield redevelopment projects that will be identified through the \$600,000 Area Wide Assessment funds along with leveraging investments made in both the USEPA funded Opportunity Corridor Area-Wide Planning and the State of Ohio Department of Transportation grants. In an effort to provide support, the Port is willing to deploy our development financing capabilities in this project area to further the redevelopment of the Opportunity Corridor. To date the Port has financed 8 projects issuing bonds totaling over \$372.5 million for total project investments of \$739.3 million in close proximity to the Opportunity Corridor area, and more specifically in the University Circle and Midtown neighborhoods in Cleveland.

We support the Coalition's USEPA Assessment Grant application and the positive impact it will bring to our region.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "William D. Friedman".

William D. Friedman
President & Chief Executive Officer

CUYAHOGA COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

YOUR TRUSTED SOURCE FOR PUBLIC HEALTH INFORMATION

January 21, 2014

Mr. Larry Benders
Director of Development
Reserve Square
1701 E. 12th Street – 1st Floor
Cleveland, OH 44114

Dear Director Benders:

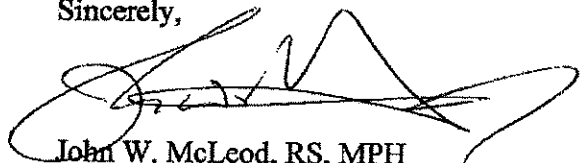
The Cuyahoga County Board of Health enthusiastically supports the Northcoast Brownfield Coalition, with the Cuyahoga County Department of Development as lead agency, in their submission of a U.S.EPA assessment grant. This application will help further our organizations goal of promoting the Health of Residents of Cuyahoga County since 1919. The Cuyahoga County Department of Development has the knowledge and brownfield program experience needed to successfully administer U.S. EPA grants.

The Cuyahoga County Board of Health is a governmental agency created in 1919 to prevent disease and injury, promote positive health outcomes and provide critical health services to improve the health status of the community. Our agency shares a vision with the Northcoast Brownfield Coalition that supports the brownfield efforts is as stated within the grant application.

We are committed to assist with tracking community and environmental health through GIS mapping of site features, health data, and select social and economic characteristics, in an effort to more fully characterize the community. In addition, our agency will continue to further expand and develop the database related to the assessment sites. The CCBH will also help develop a multi-faceted educational program aimed at educating the public regarding brownfield sites and the subsequent redevelopment of these properties.

This is a wonderful opportunity to foster the needed regional cooperation. The Cuyahoga County Board of Health fully supports the Northcoast Brownfield Coalition assessment grant application. If you have any questions I can be reached at (216)201-2001 extension 1200 or via email at jmcleod@ccbh.net.

Sincerely,



John W. McLeod, RS, MPH
Director
Environmental Public Health

Attachment E: Community Organization Support Letters



Bridgeport Place
7201 Kinsman Rd., Ste. 104
Cleveland, Ohio 44104
216.341.1455 • Fax 216.341.2683
www.bbdevelopment.org

January 15, 2014

Mr. Don West
Environmental Management Support, Inc.
8601 Georgia Avenue, Suite 500
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Re: Northcoast Brownfield Coalition's USEPA Brownfields Assessment Grant application

Dear Mr. West:

Burten, Bell, Carr Development, Incorporated (BBC) is pleased to provide this letter of support for the Northcoast Brownfield Coalition's USEPA Brownfields Assessment Grant application. This fund would undoubtedly address direct needs of the community, and there is no question these efforts will enhance the quality of life for residents of the Central, Kinsman, and Woodland communities that we serve.

BBC is firmly committed to revitalizing the communities we serve through projects which address infrastructure and economic development needs. Burten, Bell, Carr Development Inc.'s mission is to empower citizens, and revitalize blighted and underserved communities. We do this mainly through real estate, economic development, and community empowerment activities.

BBC will play a key role in identifying and prioritizing projects for redevelopment. BBC will also assist the Coalition in providing outreach to the community and ensuring that projects are prioritized in a way that has the strongest benefit for the environment, health, and development of the community.

The City of Cleveland, working with the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), has identified the Cleveland Opportunity Corridor project as an important project to support its revival and renewal efforts. The City secured a Brownfield Area-wide Planning Pilot Grant to help prioritize development projects in the area. Aside from the infrastructure plans of the City and ODOT, this area of Cleveland is ripe for economic development except for the necessary resources to address existing land conditions.

Addressing the environmental uncertainties of this part of our serve area will:

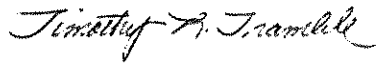
- Produce economic generators within a historically underserved, economically depressed area.
- Provide economic opportunities for unemployed and underemployed residents.
- Redevelop large vacant and abandoned tracts of land;
- Move forward on City/USEPA plan to redevelop numerous brownfield sites within the project area.
- Keep, support, or grow existing businesses, institutions, and local community developments

- Improve job opportunities for area residents
- Improve regional water quality through coordinated effort of NEORSD, City of Cleveland, other members of the coalition to construct new storm sewer system.

An EPA grant award would enable the City of Cleveland to move forward with the important step of environmental site assessment. With a commitment for funding from USEPA, we can continue and expand the neighborhood transformation that has taken flight along the perimeter of this area.

We strongly support the Coalition's USEPA Assessment Grant application and the many positive opportunities it will bring to the region.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Timothy L. Tramble".

Timothy L. Tramble
Executive Director



Mr. Don West
Environmental Management Support, Inc.
8601 Georgia Avenue, Suite 500
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Mr. West:

On behalf of Buckeye Shaker Square Development Corporation, I am writing to express our strong support and enthusiasm for the Northcoast Brownfield Coalition's USEPA Brownfields Assessment Grant application. An award of these assessment funds will enable the Coalition to be more effective in its efforts to assess, clean up, and reuse existing brownfield sites.

Our mission is to plan, organize, and coordinate resources and activities that will empower the community at large to enhance the quality of life through positive revitalization, stabilization and growth in the Buckeye-Woodland Hills area of Cleveland, Ohio.

Buckeye Shaker Square Development Corporation will play a key role in identifying and prioritizing projects for redevelopment. Buckeye Shaker Square Development Corporation will assist the Coalition in providing outreach to the community and ensuring that projects are prioritized in a way that has the strongest benefit for the environment, health, and development of the community.

The City of Cleveland, working with the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), has identified the Cleveland Opportunity Corridor project as an important project to support its revival and renewal efforts. The City secured a Brownfield Area-wide Planning Pilot Grant to help prioritize development projects in the area. Environmental site assessment funds will be instrumental to the City and the Coalition's efforts to leverage the major infrastructure investment into a transformative economic development area.

The development of the Opportunity Corridor will:

- Improve the roadway network within a historically underserved, economically depressed area.
- Provide improved regional and local access to major roadways and centers of employment.
- Redevelop large vacant and abandoned tracts of land;
- Move forward on City/USEPA plan to redevelop numerous brownfield sites within the project area.
- Keep, support, or grow existing businesses, institutions, and local community developments
- Improve job opportunities for area residents

- Improve regional water quality through coordinated effort of NEORS, City of Cleveland, other members of the coalition to construct new storm sewer system.

An EPA grant award would enable the City of Cleveland to move forward with the important step of environmental site assessment. With a commitment for funding from USEPA, additional funding can be leveraged from ODOT, the Ohio Turnpike and Infrastructure Commission, USDOT, HUD, and from the entities that make up the Coalition.

According to a 2011 economic impact study, completion of the Opportunity Corridor has the potential to result in more than 1,100 direct permanent jobs, nearly 1,600 direct temporary jobs, \$548 million in direct payroll, and \$2.2 billion in direct production output. These figures include 546 permanent jobs and 461 temporary jobs created through the industrial and warehousing operations in the central and western sections of the corridor. In addition, the estimated tax revenue generated by local municipalities and the State of Ohio from the economic impact of the project total \$1.7 million, with an additional \$1.7 million in federal tax dollars generated.

We strongly support the Coalition's USEPA Assessment Grant application and the many positive opportunities it will bring to the region.

Sincerely,



John G. Hopkins
Executive Director



January 10, 2014

Mr. Don West
Environmental Management Support, Inc.
8601 Georgia Avenue, Suite 500
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Mr. West:

We are writing in support of the city of Cleveland's Northcoast Brownfield Coalition's USEPA Brownsfields Assessment grant application. The Cleveland Foundation, the largest philanthropic organization in Ohio, has a long history of partnering with the city on important issues, including land use and local economic development. We also provided funding to engage the local community in planning for Opportunity Corridor.

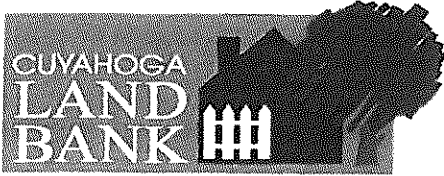
We understand that receipt of this requested funding is a critical next step in the development of Opportunity Corridor and encourage your positive response.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Robert E. Eckardt, Dr. P.H.
Executive Vice President

REE/med



Cuyahoga County Land Reutilization Corp.
323 W. Lakeside Avenue, Suite 160 Cleveland, Ohio 44113
Tel (216) 698-8853 Fax (216) 698-8972

January 16, 2014

Mr. Don West
Environmental Management Support, Inc.
8601 Georgia Avenue, Suite 500
Silver Spring, MD 20910

RE: Northcoast Brownfield Coalition's US EPA
Brownfield Assessment Grant Application

Dear Mr. West:

On behalf of the Cuyahoga County Land Reutilization Corp. (CCLRC), I am writing to express our strong support and enthusiasm for the Northcoast Brownfield Coalition's USEPA Brownfields Assessment Grant application. An award of these assessment funds will enable the Coalition to be more effective in its efforts to assess, clean up, and reuse existing brownfield sites.

When Cuyahoga County found itself at the epicenter of the nationwide foreclosure crisis starting in 2006, a collaborative group of minds came together to do something about it. These efforts resulted in innovative approaches and policies and the formation of the Cuyahoga County Land Bank as a separate non-profit, government-purposed entity tasked to:

1. strategically acquire blighted properties
2. return them to productive use through
 - a. rehabilitation
 - b. sale to new private owners
 - c. demolition
 - d. preparation for traditional economic development
 - e. creative reuse such as gardening, green space, storm water management
 - or other innovative and ecological purposes
3. increase property values through these efforts
4. support community goals through collaborations with Cuyahoga's individual communities, governments, lenders, and individual property owners;
5. and improve the quality of life for Cuyahoga County's residents through its efforts

The CCLRC will play a role in identifying and prioritizing projects for redevelopment and assist the Coalition in providing outreach to the community and ensuring that projects are prioritized in a way that has the strongest benefit for the environment, health, and development of the community.

The City of Cleveland, working with the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), has identified the

Cleveland Opportunity Corridor project as an important project to support its revival and renewal efforts. The City secured a Brownfield Area-wide Planning Pilot Grant to help prioritize development projects in the area. Environmental site assessment funds will be instrumental to the City and the Coalition's efforts to leverage the major infrastructure investment into a transformative economic development area.

The development of the Opportunity Corridor will:


- Improve the roadway network within a historically underserved, economically depressed area.
- Provide improved regional and local access to major roadways and centers of employment.
- Redevelop large vacant and abandoned tracts of land;
- Move forward on City/USEPA plan to redevelop numerous brownfield sites within the project area.
- Keep, support, or grow existing businesses, institutions, and local community developments
- Improve job opportunities for area residents
- Improve regional water quality through coordinated effort of NEORSD, City of Cleveland, other members of the coalition to construct new storm sewer system.

An EPA grant award would enable the City of Cleveland to move forward with the important step of environmental site assessment. With a commitment for funding from USEPA, additional funding can be leveraged from ODOT, the Ohio Turnpike and Infrastructure Commission, USDOT, HUD, and from the entities that make up the Coalition.

According to a 2011 economic impact study, completion of the Opportunity Corridor has the potential to result in more than 1,100 direct permanent jobs, nearly 1,600 direct temporary jobs, \$548 million in direct payroll, and \$2.2 billion in direct production output. These figures include 546 permanent jobs and 461 temporary jobs created through the industrial and warehousing operations in the central and western sections of the corridor. In addition, the estimated tax revenue generated by local municipalities and the State of Ohio from the economic impact of the project total \$1.7 million, with an additional \$1.7 million in federal tax dollars generated.

We strongly support the Coalition's USEPA Assessment Grant application and the many positive opportunities it will bring to the region.

Sincerely,


Cheryl L. Stephens, Director
Acquisition, Disposition and Development



January 9, 2014

Mr. Don West
Environmental Management Support, Inc.
8601 Georgia Avenue, Suite 500
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Mr. West:

On behalf of Cuyahoga Metropolitan Housing Authority (CMHA), I am writing to express our strong support and enthusiasm for the Northcoast Brownfield Coalition's USEPA Brownfields Assessment Grant application. An award of these assessment funds will enable the Coalition to be more effective in its efforts to assess, clean up, and reuse existing brownfield sites.

The Cuyahoga Metropolitan Housing Authority (CMHA) is the nation's first chartered public housing authority. It has enriched the lives of thousands of residents in the City of Cleveland for 80 years by providing quality, affordable housing options. CMHA now manages over 60 housing developments of various sizes, and over 400 scattered site units located around Cleveland and in surrounding suburbs of East Cleveland and Oakwood Village. These sites account for 10,500 units that house 53,600 people, including seniors, and persons with disabilities. A few of our properties are within the planned Cleveland Opportunity Corridor and environmental cleanups at the brownfield sites will provide a safer environment for our residents.

CMHA will play a key role in identifying and prioritizing projects for redevelopment. CMHA will assist the Coalition in providing outreach to the community and ensuring that projects are prioritized in a way that has the strongest benefit for the environment, health, and development of the community.

The City of Cleveland, working with the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), has identified the Cleveland Opportunity Corridor project as an important project to support its revival and renewal efforts. The City secured a Brownfield Area-wide Planning Pilot Grant to help prioritize development projects in the area. Environmental site assessment funds will be instrumental to the City and the Coalition's efforts to leverage the major infrastructure investment into a transformative economic development area.

The development of the Opportunity Corridor will:

- Improve the roadway network within a historically underserved, economically depressed area.
- Provide improved regional and local access to major roadways and centers of employment.

Jeffery K. Patterson, Chief Executive Officer, Cuyahoga Metropolitan Housing Authority

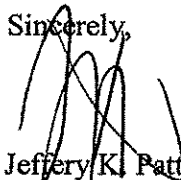
- Redevelop large vacant and abandoned tracts of land;
- Move forward on City/USEPA plan to redevelop numerous brownfield sites within the project area.
- Keep, support, or grow existing businesses, institutions, and local community developments
- Improve job opportunities for area residents
- Improve regional water quality through coordinated effort of NEORSD, City of Cleveland, and other members of the coalition to construct new storm sewer system.

An EPA grant award would enable the City of Cleveland to move forward with the important step of environmental site assessment. With a commitment for funding from USEPA, additional funding can be leveraged from ODOT, the Ohio Turnpike and Infrastructure Commission, USDOT, HUD, and from the entities that make up the Coalition.

According to a 2011 economic impact study, completion of the Opportunity Corridor has the potential to result in more than 1,100 direct permanent jobs, nearly 1,600 direct temporary jobs, \$548 million in direct payroll, and \$2.2 billion in direct production output. These figures include 546 permanent jobs and 461 temporary jobs created through the industrial and warehousing operations in the central and western sections of the corridor. In addition, the estimated tax revenue generated by local municipalities and the State of Ohio from the economic impact of the project total \$1.7 million, with an additional \$1.7 million in federal tax dollars generated.

CMHA strongly supports the Coalition's USEPA Assessment Grant application and the many positive opportunities it will bring to the region.

Sincerely,



Jeffery K. Patterson
Chief Executive Officer

Jeffery K. Patterson, Chief Executive Officer, Cuyahoga Metropolitan Housing Authority



Working for Healthy Homes, Communities, & Climate

3500 Lorain Ave., #302 Cleveland, Ohio 44113

(216)961-4646 (p) (216)961-7179 (f) www.ehw.org



Environmental
Health Watch,
2013 Advisory
Board

- Will Allen, founder and
CEO of Growing
Power Inc.
- Harriet Applegate –
Executive Secretary,
North Coast AFL-CIO
- David Beach – Green City
Blue Lake
- Greg Brown – Executive
Director, Policy Bridge
- Phyllis Cleveland, Majority
Leader, Cleveland City
Council
- Dorr G. Dearborn, PhD, MD
- Mary Ann Swetland
Professor and Chair,
Dept. of
Environmental Health
Sciences
- Mike Foley, Director –
Common Good Ohio,
Ohio State legislator
- Sumita B. Khatri, MD MS,
Co-Director Asthma
Center – Cleveland
Clinic Foundation
- Michele Kilroy, LEED AP,
Executive Director -
Northeast Ohio
Chapter of the US
Green Building
Coalition
- Mark McDermott - V.P.,
Ohio Market Leader,
Enterprise
Community Partners
- Randy McShepard, Vice
President of Public
Affairs, RPM
International Inc.
- Jim Rokakis – Director,
Thriving Communities
Institute
- Zach Schiller – Policy
Matters Ohio
- Michael Skindell, Practicing
Attorney, Ohio State
legislator
- Shanelle Smith, Local
Director, Emerald
Cities
Cleveland/Cuyahoga
County

January 21, 2014

Mr. Don West
Environmental Management Support, Inc.
8601 Georgia Avenue, Suite 500
Silver Spring, MD 20910

RE: ASSESSMENT GRANT LETTER OF SUPPORT

Dear Mr. West:

On behalf of Environmental Health Watch I am writing to express our strong support and enthusiasm for the Northcoast Brownfield Coalition's USEPA Brownfields Assessment Grant application. In order to jumpstart revitalization and foster economic growth within the Opportunity Corridor of Cleveland, an award of these assessment funds will enable the Coalition to be more effective in its efforts to assess, clean up, and reuse existing brownfield sites.

Since 1980, EHW has played a unique Role in Northeast Ohio helping public and policy-makers address critical health concern related to our urban and industrial environment. Participation in area partnerships is an integral part of our work and we fully support the proposed Northcoast Brownfield Coalition activities in the Opportunity Corridor. EHW played an active role as a community partner and served on the steering committee for the Brownfield Area Wide Planning Project from 2010 to 2013 ..

Since 2009, EHW has engaged community residents, businesses and institutions to develop a sustainable intergenerational Environmental Justice Partnership, within the Cleveland Neighborhoods along the Opportunity Corridor that understands and takes action against the community's environmental health threats. EHW has funding through the NLEH EPA CARE Project to provide an environmental assessment prior to the development of the Rid-All Urban Farm constructed within the Urban Agriculture Zone within the Central CARE Community.

EHW will play a key role in identifying and prioritizing projects for redevelopment and will assist the Coalition in providing outreach to the community and ensuring that projects are prioritized in a way that has the strongest benefit for the residents, environment, health, and development of the community. Due to our access to a large network of community stakeholders and support agencies, we have the capacity to help assure solid project identification that will help drive the reuse of idled brownfield properties.

The City of Cleveland, working with the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), has identified the Cleveland Opportunity Corridor project as an important project to support its revival and renewal efforts. The City secured a Brownfield Area-wide Planning Pilot Grant to help prioritize development projects in the area. Environmental site assessment funds will be instrumental to the City and the Coalition's efforts to leverage the major infrastructure investment into a transformative economic development area.

An EPA grant award would enable the City of Cleveland to move forward with the important step of environmental site assessment. With a commitment for funding from USEPA, additional funding can be leveraged from ODOT, the Ohio Turnpike and Infrastructure Commission, USDOT, HUD, and from the entities that make up the Coalition. We strongly support the Coalition's USEPA Assessment Grant application and the many positive opportunities it will bring to the region.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Kimberly Foreman". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Kimberly Foreman, Associate Director
Environmental Health Watch

216 241.3111 1845 GUILDHALL BUILDING
Fax 216 241.6560 45 PROSPECT AVENUE WEST
gundfoundation.org CLEVELAND, OHIO 44115

The George Gund Foundation

January 14, 2013

Mr. Don West
Environmental Management Support, Inc.
8601 Georgia Avenue, Suite 500
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910

Dear Mr. West,

On behalf of the George Gund Foundation, I write in support of the Northcoast Brownfield Coalition's USEPA Brownfields Assessment Grant application. An award of these assessment funds will enable the Coalition to be more effective in its efforts to assess, clean up, and reuse existing brownfield sites along the planned Cleveland opportunity corridor. The George Gund Foundation, located in Cleveland, has made grants supporting collaboration among the Greater Cleveland Partnership, the Ohio Department of Transportation, the Federal Highway Administration, the City of Cleveland, numerous community development organizations, and neighborhood residents to maximize redevelopment prospects enabled by significant transportation improvements.

The development of the Opportunity Corridor will:

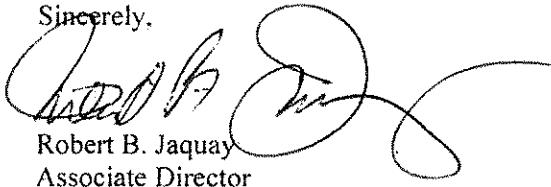
- Improve the roadway network within a historically underserved, economically depressed area;
- Provide improved regional and local access to major roadways and centers of employment;
- Redevelop large vacant and abandoned tracts of land;
- Move forward on City/USEPA plan to redevelop numerous brownfield sites within the project area;
- Keep, support, or grow existing businesses, institutions, and local community developments
- Improve job opportunities for area residents;
- Improve regional water quality through coordinated effort of NEORSD, City of Cleveland, other members of the coalition to construct new storm sewer system;
- Identify and prioritize projects for redevelopment in the corridor that have the strongest benefit for the environment, health, and development of the community.

An EPA grant award would enable the City of Cleveland to move forward with the important step of environmental site assessment. With a commitment for funding from USEPA, additional funding can be leveraged from multiple public, private and not for profit partners.

According to a 2011 economic impact study underwritten in part by Gund, completion of the Opportunity Corridor has the potential to result in more than 1,100 direct permanent jobs, nearly 1,600 direct temporary jobs, \$548 million in direct payroll, and \$2.2 billion in direct production output. These figures include 546 permanent jobs and 461 temporary jobs created through the industrial and warehousing operations in the central and western sections of the corridor. In addition, the estimated tax revenue generated by local municipalities and the State of Ohio from the economic impact of the project total \$1.7 million, with an additional \$1.7 million in federal tax dollars generated.

Consequently, our Foundation strongly support the Coalition's USEPA Assessment Grant application and the many positive opportunities it will bring to the City of Cleveland and entire Northeast Ohio region.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Robert B. Jaquay', with a large, stylized flourish extending from the end of the signature.

Robert B. Jaquay
Associate Director

/ap

January 10, 2014

Mr. Don West
Environmental Management Support, Inc.
8601 Georgia Avenue, Suite 500
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910



Dear Mr. West,

On behalf of the Greater Cleveland Partnership, I am writing to express our strong support for the Northcoast Brownfield Coalition's USEPA Brownfields Assessment Grant application. An award of these assessment funds will enable the Coalition to be more effective in its efforts to assess, clean up, and reuse existing brownfield sites.

With more than 14,000 members, the Greater Cleveland Partnership (GCP) is a membership association of Northeast Ohio companies and organizations and one of the largest metropolitan chambers of commerce in the nation. The GCP works to mobilize private sector leadership, expertise and resources to create attractive business conditions that produce jobs, grow investment and improve the economic prosperity of the region.

In collaboration with the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), the City of Cleveland and the GCP have identified the Cleveland Opportunity Corridor project as an important project to support its revival and renewal efforts. The City secured a Brownfield Area-wide Planning Pilot Grant to help prioritize development projects in the area. Environmental site assessment funds will be instrumental to the City and the Coalition's efforts to leverage the major infrastructure investment into a transformative economic development area.

The development of the Opportunity Corridor will:

- Improve the roadway network within a historically underserved, economically depressed area.
- Provide improved regional and local access to major roadways and centers of employment.
- Redevelop large vacant and abandoned tracts of land;
- Move forward on City/USEPA plan to redevelop numerous brownfield sites within the project area.
- Keep, support, or grow existing businesses, institutions, and local community developments
- Improve job opportunities for area residents
- Improve regional water quality through coordinated effort of NEORS, City of Cleveland, other members of the coalition to construct new storm sewer system.
- Through its leadership role with the Opportunity Corridor Steering Committee, the GCP will play a key role in identifying and prioritizing projects for redevelopment. The GCP and Steering Committee will assist the Coalition in providing outreach to the community and ensuring that projects are prioritized in a way that has the strongest benefit for the environment, health, and development of the community.



www.gcpartnership.com

- An EPA grant award would enable the City of Cleveland to move forward with the important step of environmental site assessment. With a commitment for funding from USEPA, additional funding can be leveraged from multiple public, private and not-for profit partners.
- According to a 2011 economic impact study procured by the GCP, completion of the Opportunity Corridor has the potential to result in more than 1,100 direct permanent jobs, nearly 1,600 direct temporary jobs, \$548 million in direct payroll, and \$2.2 billion in direct production output. These figures include 546 permanent jobs and 461 temporary jobs created through the industrial and warehousing operations in the central and western sections of the corridor. In addition, the estimated tax revenue generated by local municipalities and the State of Ohio from the economic impact of the project total \$1.7 million, with an additional \$1.7 million in federal tax dollars generated.
- We strongly support the Coalition's USEPA Assessment Grant application and the many positive opportunities it will bring to the City of Cleveland and entire Northeast Ohio region.

Sincerely yours,

Joseph D. Roman
President and Chief Executive Officer

JDR:pjm



The Greater Cleveland
Regional Transit Authority

1240 West 6th Street
Cleveland, Ohio 44113-1302
Phone: 216-566-5100
rideRTA.com

January 10, 2014

Mr. Don West
Environmental Management Support, Inc.
8601 Georgia Avenue, Suite 500
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Mr. West:

On behalf of Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority, I am writing to express our strong support and enthusiasm for the Northcoast Brownfield Coalition's USEPA Brownfields Assessment Grant application. An award of these assessment funds will enable the Coalition to be more effective in its efforts to assess, clean up, and reuse existing brownfield sites.

The Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority will work closely with the City of Cleveland to help identify and prioritize projects that do or will have good public transit access so that they benefit individuals of all socio-economic classes, and in that way, have the maximum benefit to the environment, health, and development of the community.

The City of Cleveland, working with the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), has identified the Cleveland Opportunity Corridor project as an important project to support its revival and renewal efforts. The City secured a Brownfield Area-wide Planning Pilot Grant to help prioritize development projects in the area. Environmental site assessment funds will be instrumental to the City and the Coalition's efforts to leverage the major infrastructure investment into a transformative economic development area.

The development of the Opportunity Corridor will:

- Improve the roadway network within a historically underserved, economically depressed area.
- Provide improved regional and local access to major roadways and centers of employment.
- Redevelop large vacant and abandoned tracts of land;
- Move forward on City/USEPA plan to redevelop numerous brownfield sites within the project area.
- Keep, support, or grow existing businesses, institutions, and local community developments
- Improve job opportunities for area residents
- Improve regional water quality through coordinated effort of NEORSD, City of Cleveland, other members of the coalition to construct new storm sewer system.



Mr. Don West
January 10, 2014
Page 2

An EPA grant award would enable the City of Cleveland to move forward with the important step of environmental site assessment. With a commitment for funding from USEPA, additional funding can be leveraged from ODOT, the Ohio Turnpike and Infrastructure Commission, USDOT, HUD, and from the entities that make up the Coalition.

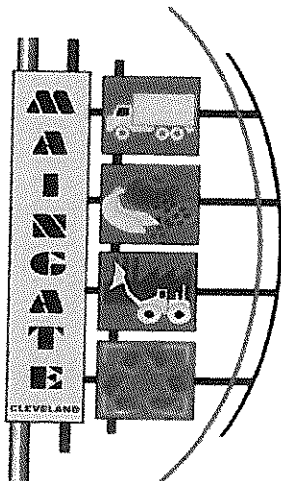
According to a 2011 economic impact study, completion of the Opportunity Corridor has the potential to result in more than 1,100 direct permanent jobs, nearly 1,600 direct temporary jobs, \$548 million in direct payroll, and \$2.2 billion in direct production output. These figures include 546 permanent jobs and 461 temporary jobs created through the industrial and warehousing operations in the central and western sections of the corridor. In addition, the estimated tax revenue generated by local municipalities and the State of Ohio from the economic impact of the project total \$1.7 million, with an additional \$1.7 million in federal tax dollars generated. We strongly support the Coalition's USEPA Assessment Grant application and the many positive opportunities it will bring to the region.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Joseph A. Calabrese'.

Joseph A. Calabrese, CEO
General Manager
Secretary-Treasurer

JAC:msl



ASSESSMENT GRANT LETTER OF SUPPORT

Mr. Don West
Environmental Management Support, Inc.
8601 Georgia Avenue, Suite 500
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Mr. West:

On behalf of Maingate Business Development Corporation, I am writing to express our strong support and enthusiasm for the Northcoast Brownfield Coalition's USEPA Brownfields Assessment Grant application. An award of these assessment funds will enable the Coalition to be more effective in its efforts to assess, clean up, and reuse existing brownfield sites. Maingate Business Development Corporation is a non-profit, member supported organization. Our organization was member founded in 1990 and has made significant progress in aiding business infrastructure, community and employment growth and neighborhood development since then. The mission is to economically and physically develop and improve the five-square mile industrial business area southeast of downtown Cleveland for business retention, expansion and attraction resulting in the creation of jobs and a sustainable future for Clevelanders.

Maingate Business Development Corporation will play a key role in identifying and prioritizing projects for redevelopment. Maingate Business Development Corporation will assist the Coalition in providing outreach to the community and ensuring that projects are prioritized in a way that has the strongest benefit for the environment, health, and development of the community.

The City of Cleveland, working with the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), has identified the Cleveland Opportunity Corridor project as an important project to support its revival and renewal efforts. The City secured a Brownfield Area-wide Planning Pilot Grant to help prioritize development projects in the area. Environmental site assessment funds will be instrumental to the City and the Coalition's efforts to leverage the major infrastructure investment into a transformative economic development area.

The development of the Opportunity Corridor will:

- Improve the roadway network within a historically underserved, economically depressed area.
- Provide improved regional and local access to major roadways and centers of employment.
- Redevelop large vacant and abandoned tracts of land;
- Move forward on City/USEPA plan to redevelop numerous brownfield sites within the project area.
- Keep, support, or grow existing businesses, institutions, and local community developments
- Improve job opportunities for area residents
- Improve regional water quality through coordinated effort of NEORS, City of Cleveland, other members of the coalition to construct new storm sewer system.

An EPA grant award would enable the City of Cleveland to move forward with the important step of environmental site assessment. With a commitment for funding from USEPA, additional funding can be leveraged from ODOT, the Ohio Turnpike and Infrastructure Commission, USDOT, HUD, and from the entities that make up the Coalition.

According to a 2011 economic impact study, completion of the Opportunity Corridor has the potential to result in more than 1,100 direct permanent jobs, nearly 1,600 direct temporary jobs, \$548 million in direct payroll, and \$2.2 billion in direct production output. These figures include 546 permanent jobs and 461 temporary jobs created through the industrial and warehousing operations in the central and western sections of the corridor. In addition, the estimated tax revenue generated by local municipalities and the State of Ohio from the economic impact of the project total \$1.7 million, with an additional \$1.7 million in federal tax dollars generated.

We strongly support the Coalition's USEPA Assessment Grant application and the many positive opportunities it will bring to the region.

Sincerely,



Tim Perotti

Executive Director

Tperotti@maingatecleveland.org

Maingate Business Development Corporation

2700 East 40th Street, Cleveland, Ohio 44115

Phone: 216-881-7111 / Fax: 216-432-3763

Mobile: 216-323-8607

www.maingatecleveland.org

Miceli Dairy Products Company

2721 East 90th Street Cleveland, Ohio 44104
216/791-6222 800/551-7196 Fax 216/231-2504

January 9, 2014

Mr. Don West
Environmental Management Support, Inc.
8601 Georgia Avenue, Suite 500
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Mr. West:

As CEO of Miceli Dairy Products Company, I am writing to express our strong support and enthusiasm for the Northcoast Brownfield Coalition's USEPA Brownfields Assessment Grant application. An award of these assessment funds will enable the Coalition to be more effective in its efforts to assess, clean up, and reuse existing brownfield sites.

Since 1949, Miceli Dairy Products Company has operated a family owned Italian cheese manufacturing facility on Cleveland's southeast side. Through hard work, product innovation and with the help of the City of Cleveland and other integral government and non-profit partners, we have seen our company grow to one of the largest ricotta cheese producers in the nation.

Most recently with the help of the City of Cleveland, Cuyahoga County and the State of Ohio and a host of other partners, we have just completed a phase 1 expansion doubling our production capacity and adding a new milk receiving facility and a welcome center and test kitchen. In addition, we received State of Ohio – Clean Ohio funding to remediate a brownfield adjacent to our property to allow for a phase 2 expansion in the near future.

With first-hand knowledge of the invaluable assistance provided by the City of Cleveland, Miceli's pledges to play a key role in identifying and prioritizing projects for redevelopment. We will assist the Coalition in providing outreach to the community and ensuring that projects are prioritized in a way that has the strongest benefit for the environment, health, and development of the community.

The City of Cleveland, working with the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), has identified the Cleveland Opportunity Corridor project as an important project to support its revival and renewal efforts. The City secured a Brownfield Area-wide Planning Pilot Grant to help prioritize development projects in the area. Environmental site assessment funds will be instrumental to the City and the Coalition's efforts to leverage the major infrastructure investment into a transformative economic development area.

January 9, 2014
Mr. Don West
Environmental Management Support, Inc.

Page 2

Located in the Opportunity Corridor project area, Miceli Dairy heartily endorses its development because it will assist us in the further expansion and growth of our company by:

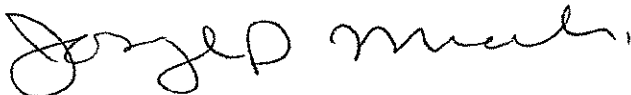
- Improving the roadway network in a historically underserved, economically depressed area.
- Providing improved regional and local access to major roadways and employment centers,
- Redeveloping large vacant and abandoned tracts of land;
- Moving forward on the City/USEPA plan to redevelop numerous brownfield sites within the project area.
- Offering continued support for Miceli's and other existing businesses, institutions, and local community developments as well as encouraging new growth and development
- Improving job opportunities and easier access for area residents
- Improving regional water quality through coordinated effort of NEORSD, City of Cleveland, and other members of the coalition to construct new storm sewer system.

An EPA grant award would enable the City of Cleveland to move forward with the important step of environmental site assessment. With a commitment for funding from USEPA, additional funding can be leveraged from ODOT, the Ohio Turnpike and Infrastructure Commission, USDOT, HUD, and from the entities that make up the Coalition.

According to a 2011 economic impact study, completion of the Opportunity Corridor has the potential to result in more than 1,100 direct permanent jobs, nearly 1,600 direct temporary jobs, \$548 million in direct payroll, and \$2.2 billion in direct production output. These figures include 546 permanent jobs and 461 temporary jobs created through the industrial and warehousing operations in the central and western sections of the corridor. In addition, the estimated tax revenue generated by local municipalities and the State of Ohio from the economic impact of the project total \$1.7 million, with an additional \$1.7 million in federal tax dollars generated.

We strongly support the Coalition's USEPA Assessment Grant application and the many positive opportunities it will bring to the region.

Sincerely,



Joseph D. Miceli
Chief Executive Officer



January 8, 2014

Mr. Don West
Environmental Management Support, Inc.
8601 Georgia Avenue, Suite 500
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Mr. West:

On behalf of National Development Council (NDC), I am writing to express our strong support and enthusiasm for the Northcoast Brownfield Coalition's USEPA Brownfields Assessment Grant application. An award of these assessment funds will enable the Coalition to be more effective in its efforts to assess, clean up, and reuse existing brownfield sites.

The National Development Council (NDC) is the oldest nation-wide non-profit community development organization in the U.S. Established in 1968, at the beginning of the community development movement, NDC has played a significant role in shaping the strategies and methods that have set the standards of excellence in practice in the field. Now, over forty years later, for hundreds of localities who are our client communities, NDC is a "one-stop" resource for financing and assistance in economic development and job creation, community and neighborhood revitalization, and affordable housing, as well as for building local capacity in all these endeavors.

NDC will play a key role in identifying and prioritizing projects for redevelopment. NDC will assist the City in providing outreach to the community and ensuring that projects are prioritized in a way that has the strongest benefit for the environment, health, and development of the community.

The City of Cleveland, working with the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), has identified the Cleveland Opportunity Corridor project as an important project to support its revival and renewal efforts. The City secured a Brownfield Area-Wide Planning Pilot Grant to help prioritize development projects in the area. Revolving loan funds will be instrumental to the City's efforts to leverage the major infrastructure investment into a transformative economic development area. The development of the Opportunity Corridor will:

- Improve the roadway network within a historically underserved, economically depressed area.
- Provide improved regional and local access to major roadways and centers of employment.

Training Division
927 Dudley Road
Edgewood, KY 41017
TEL (859) 578-4850
FAX (859) 578-4860

New York Office
708 3rd Avenue, Suite 710
New York, NY 10017
TEL (212) 682-1106
FAX (212) 682-5611

www.nationaldevelopmentcouncil.org



- Redevelop large vacant and abandoned tracts of land;
- Move forward on City/USEPA plan to redevelop numerous brownfield sites within the project area.
- Keep, support, or grow existing businesses, institutions, and local community developments
- Improve job opportunities for area residents
- Improve regional water quality through coordinated effort of NEORSD, City of Cleveland, other members of the coalition to construct new storm sewer system.

An EPA grant award would enable the City of Cleveland to move forward in implementing its Opportunity Corridor Brownfield Area-Wide Plan. With a commitment for funding from USEPA, additional funding can be leveraged from ODOT, the Ohio Turnpike and Infrastructure Commission, USDOT, HUD, and from the entities that make up the Coalition.

According to a 2011 economic impact study, completion of the Opportunity Corridor has the potential to result in more than 1,100 direct permanent jobs, nearly 1,600 direct temporary jobs, \$548 million in direct payroll, and \$2.2 billion in direct production output. These figures include 546 permanent jobs and 461 temporary jobs created through the industrial and warehousing operations in the central and western sections of the corridor. In addition, the estimated tax revenue generated by local municipalities and the State of Ohio from the economic impact of the project total \$1.7 million, with an additional \$1.7 million in federal tax dollars generated.

We strongly support the Coalition's USEPA Assessment Grant application and the many positive opportunities it will bring to the region.

Sincerely,

Corey A. Leon, Director
Central Team

Training Division
927 Dudley Road
Edgewood, KY 41017
TEL (859) 578-4850
FAX (859) 578-4860

New York Office
708 3rd Avenue, Suite 710
New York, NY 10017
TEL (212) 682-1106
FAX (212) 682-5611

www.nationaldevelopmentcouncil.org



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Kurt Pincio, District Chief
 Northeast District Office
 Ohio Environmental Protection Agency

Executive Committee Members

Grace Ballucci, NOACA Executive Director

January 16, 2014

Don West
 Environmental Management Support, Inc.
 8601 Georgia Avenue, Suite 500
 Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Mr. West:

On behalf of the Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency (NOACA), I am writing to express our strong support for the Northcoast Brownfield Coalition's United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) Brownfields Assessment Grant application. An award of these funds will enable the Coalition to be more effective in its efforts to assess, clean up, and reuse existing brownfield sites.

NOACA is a regional organization of local officials responsible for carrying out transportation and environmental planning for the Cleveland-Elyria metropolitan statistical area (Cuyahoga, Geauga, Lake, Lorain and Medina Counties). Under local direction, and in accordance with federal and state mandates, NOACA aims to improve citizens' quality of life by enhancing the region's long term economic development potential and protecting its environmental quality; help member local governments and agencies address local and regional issues in a cooperative manner; and assure the equitable flow and prudent expenditure of public funds. NOACA supports the clean up and revitalization of brownfields, which contribute to healthier neighborhoods, mitigate environmental conditions and enhance economic opportunities.

The City of Cleveland, working with the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), has identified the Cleveland Opportunity Corridor project as important to support its revival and renewal efforts. The City secured a Brownfield Area-Wide Planning Pilot Grant to help prioritize development projects in the area. Environmental site assessment funds will be instrumental to the City and the Coalition's efforts to leverage the major infrastructure investment into a transformative economic development area.

The City of Cleveland has identified potential benefits of the development of the Opportunity Corridor which include:

- Improve the roadway network within a historically underserved, economically depressed area;
- Provide improved regional and local access to major roadways and centers of employment;
- Redevelop large vacant and abandoned tracts of land;
- Move forward on the City/USEPA plan to redevelop numerous brownfield sites within the project area;
- Keep, support or grow existing businesses, institutions and local community developments;

1299 Superior Ave., Cleveland, Ohio 44114-3204 Phone: 216-241-2414 FAX: 216-621-3024

Web: www.noaca.org [noaca.org](https://www.facebook.com/noaca.org) [@noaca_mpo](https://twitter.com/noaca_mpo)



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Joseph A. Calabrese
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City of Cleveland

Judy Moore, Commissioner
Lake County Board of Commissioners

Myron S. Pabst, Deputy Director
Ohio DOT - District 12

Michael S. Proctor, Mayor
Village of Breckin Heights

Chase M. Rasmussen, Mayor
City of Lorain

Julian Rogers, Councilperson
Cuyahoga County Council

Michael J. Riley, P.E., P.S., Engineer
Medina County

Reid Spidler, Commissioner
Ramapo County Board of Commissioners

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Village of Berlinville

Robert A. Stedonik, Mayor
City of North Royalton

Michael P. Summers, Mayor
City of Lakewood

Deborah L. Sutherland, Mayor
City of Bay Village

Bonnie B. Tabor, P.E., Director
Cuyahoga County Department of Public Works

Jamie Wask, Director of Capital Projects
City of Cleveland

Tom Williams, Commissioner
Lorain County Board of Commissioners

Ex officio Member:

Kurt Pincus, District Chief
Northeast District Office
Ohio Environmental Protection Agency

Executive Committee Members

Gracia Gelfand, NOACA Executive Director

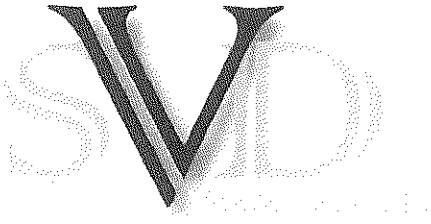
- Improve job opportunities for area residents; and
- Improve regional water quality through coordinated effort by the Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District (NEORS), City of Cleveland and Cuyahoga County to construct a new storm sewer system.

An EPA grant award would enable the City of Cleveland to move forward with the important step of environmental site assessment. With a commitment for funding from USEPA, additional funding can be leveraged from the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT), the Ohio Turnpike and Infrastructure Commission, the United States Department of Transportation (USDOT), the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), and from the entities that make up the Coalition.

We strongly support the Coalition's USEPA Assessment Grant application and the many positive opportunities it will bring to the region.

Sincerely,

Grace Gallucci, Executive Director
Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency



January 9, 2014

Mr. Don West
Environmental Management Support, Inc.
8601 Georgia Avenue, Suite 500
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Mr. West:

On behalf of Slavic Village Development, I am writing to express our strong support and enthusiasm for the Northcoast Brownfield Coalition's USEPA Brownfields Assessment Grant application. An award of these assessment funds will enable the Coalition to be more effective in its efforts to assess, clean up, and reuse existing brownfield sites.

Slavic Village Development (SVD) is a non-profit community development corporation with over 30 years' experience in neighborhood development and community building in Broadway Slavic Village, a community of over 20,250 people in southeast Cleveland.

SVD will play a key role in identifying and prioritizing projects for redevelopment in the Hyacinth neighborhood that will be impacted by the planned Opportunity Corridor. SVD will assist the City in providing outreach to the community and ensuring that projects are prioritized in a way that has the strongest benefit for the environment, health, and development of the community.

The City of Cleveland, working with the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), has identified the Cleveland Opportunity Corridor project as an important project to support its revival and renewal efforts. The City secured a Brownfield Area-wide Planning Pilot Grant to help prioritize development projects in the area. Environmental site assessment funds will be instrumental to the City and the Coalition's efforts to leverage the major infrastructure investment into a transformative economic development area.

The development of the Opportunity Corridor will:

- Provide improved regional and local access to major roadways and centers of employment.
- Move forward on City/USEPA plan to redevelop numerous brownfield sites within the project area.
- Keep, support, or grow existing businesses, institutions, and local community developments
- Improve job opportunities for area residents
- Improve regional water quality through coordinated effort of NEORS, City of Cleveland, other members of the coalition to construct new storm sewer system.




An EPA grant award would enable the City of Cleveland to move forward with the important step of environmental site assessment. With a commitment for funding from USEPA, additional funding can be leveraged from ODOT, the Ohio Turnpike and Infrastructure Commission, USDOT, HUD, and from the entities that make up the Coalition.

According to a 2011 economic impact study, completion of the Opportunity Corridor has the potential to result in more than 1,100 direct permanent jobs, nearly 1,600 direct temporary jobs, \$548 million in direct payroll, and \$2.2 billion in direct production output. These figures include 546 permanent jobs and 461 temporary jobs created through the industrial and warehousing operations in the central and western sections of the corridor. In addition, the estimated tax revenue generated by local municipalities and the State of Ohio from the economic impact of the project total \$1.7 million, with an additional \$1.7 million in federal tax dollars generated.

We strongly support the Coalition's USEPA Assessment Grant application and the many positive opportunities it will bring to the region.

Sincerely,



Marie Kittredge, Executive Director



ASSESSMENT GRANT LETTER OF SUPPORT

Mr. Don West
Environmental Management Support, Inc.
8601 Georgia Avenue, Suite 500
Silver Spring, MD 20910
FOR BUSINESS/ANCHOR/CDC

Dear Mr. West:

On behalf of University Circle Inc. (UCI), I am writing to express our strong support and enthusiasm for the Northcoast Brownfield Coalition's USEPA Brownfields Assessment Grant application. An award of these assessment funds will enable the Coalition to be more effective in its efforts to assess, clean up, and reuse existing brownfield sites.

University Circle is Cleveland, Ohio's signature education, medical, arts and cultural district since 1957. UCI is the community service corporation developing, serving, and advocating for the growth of University Circle as a premier urban district and world-class center of innovation in healthcare, education, and arts & culture.

UCI will play a key role in identifying and prioritizing projects for redevelopment. UCI will assist the Coalition in providing outreach to the community and ensuring that projects are prioritized in a way that has the strongest benefit for the environment, health, and development of the community.

The City of Cleveland, working with the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), has identified the Cleveland Opportunity Corridor project as an important project to support its revival and renewal efforts. The City secured a Brownfield Area-wide Planning Pilot Grant to help prioritize development projects in the area. Environmental site assessment funds will be instrumental to the City and the Coalition's efforts to leverage the major infrastructure investment into a transformative economic development area.

The development of the Opportunity Corridor will:

- Improve the roadway network within a historically underserved, economically depressed area.
- Provide improved regional and local access to major roadways and centers of employment.
- Redevelop large vacant and abandoned tracts of land;
- Move forward on City/USEPA plan to redevelop numerous brownfield sites within the project area.
- Keep, support, or grow existing businesses, institutions, and local community developments
- Improve job opportunities for area residents
- Improve regional water quality through coordinated effort of NEORSD, City of Cleveland, other members of the coalition to construct new storm sewer system.

UNIVERSITY CIRCLE INC

Development Service Advocacy

10831 Magnolia Drive Cleveland, OH 44106-1887

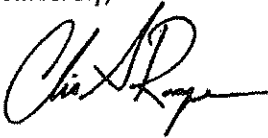
P 216.791.3900 F 216.791.3935 www.universitycircle.org

An EPA grant award would enable the City of Cleveland to move forward with the important step of environmental site assessment. With a commitment for funding from USEPA, additional funding can be leveraged from ODOT, the Ohio Turnpike and Infrastructure Commission, USDOT, HUD, and from the entities that make up the Coalition.

According to a 2011 economic impact study, completion of the Opportunity Corridor has the potential to result in more than 1,100 direct permanent jobs, nearly 1,600 direct temporary jobs, \$548 million in direct payroll, and \$2.2 billion in direct production output. These figures include 546 permanent jobs and 461 temporary jobs created through the industrial and warehousing operations in the central and western sections of the corridor. In addition, the estimated tax revenue generated by local municipalities and the State of Ohio from the economic impact of the project total \$1.7 million, with an additional \$1.7 million in federal tax dollars generated.

We strongly support the Coalition's USEPA Assessment Grant application and the many positive opportunities it will bring to the region.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris Ronayne", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Chris Ronayne
President



January 16, 2014

Mr. Don West
Environmental Management Support, Inc.
8601 Georgia Avenue, Suite 500
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Steven D. Standley
Chief Administrative Officer

University Hospitals
Management Services Center
3605 Warrensville Center Road
Shaker Heights, OH 44122
216 767-8990 Phone
216 767-8194 Fax

Dear Mr. West:

On behalf of University Hospitals, I am writing to express our strong support and enthusiasm for the Northcoast Brownfield Coalition's USEPA Brownfields Assessment Grant application. An award of these assessment funds will enable the Coalition to be more effective in its efforts to assess, clean up, and reuse existing brownfield sites. University Hospitals is one of the nation's leading health care systems, providing high-quality, patient-centered medical care at locations throughout Northeast Ohio. Committed to advanced care and advanced caring, University Hospitals offers the region's largest network of primary care physicians, outpatient centers and hospitals. The System also includes a network of specialty care physicians, skilled nursing, elder health, rehabilitation and home care services, managed care and insurance programs, occupational health & wellness, and the most comprehensive behavioral health services in the region.

University Hospitals will play a key role in identifying and prioritizing projects for redevelopment. University Hospitals will assist the Coalition in providing outreach to the community and ensuring that projects are prioritized in a way that has the strongest benefit for the environment, health, and development of the community. The City of Cleveland, working with the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), has identified the Cleveland Opportunity Corridor project as an important project to support its revival and renewal efforts. The City secured a Brownfield Area-wide Planning Pilot Grant to help prioritize development projects in the area. Environmental site assessment funds will be instrumental to the City and the Coalition's efforts to leverage the major infrastructure investment into a transformative economic development area.

The development of the Opportunity Corridor will:

- Improve the roadway network within a historically underserved, economically depressed area.
- Provide improved regional and local access to major roadways and centers of employment.
- Redevelop large vacant and abandoned tracts of land;
- Move forward on City/USEPA plan to redevelop numerous brownfield sites within the project area.
- Keep, support, or grow existing businesses, institutions, and local community developments
- Improve job opportunities for area residents
- Improve regional water quality through coordinated effort of NEORS, City of Cleveland, other members of the coalition to construct new storm sewer system.

An EPA grant award would enable the City of Cleveland to move forward with the important step of environmental site assessment. With a commitment for funding from USEPA, additional funding can be leveraged from ODOT, the Ohio Turnpike and Infrastructure Commission, USDOT, HUD, and from the entities that make up the Coalition.

According to a 2011 economic impact study, completion of the Opportunity Corridor has the potential to result in more than 1,100 direct permanent jobs, nearly 1,600 direct temporary jobs, \$548 million in direct payroll, and \$2.2 billion in direct production output. These figures include 546 permanent jobs and 461 temporary jobs created through the industrial and warehousing operations in the central and western sections of the corridor. In addition, the estimated tax revenue generated by local municipalities and the State of Ohio from the economic impact of the project total \$1.7 million, with an additional \$1.7 million in federal tax dollars generated.

We strongly support the Coalition's USEPA Assessment Grant application and the many positive opportunities it will bring to the region.

Sincerely,



Steven D. Standley
Chief Administrative Officer

Attachment F: Other Factors Checklist

Other Factors Checklist

Name of Applicant: Northcoast Brownfield Coalition

Please identify (with an **X**) which, if any of the below items apply to your community or your project as described in your proposal. To be considered for an Other Factor, you must include the page number where each applicable factor is discussed in your proposal. EPA will verify these disclosures prior to selection and may consider this information during the selection process. If this information is not clearly discussed in your narrative proposal or in any other attachments, it will not be considered during the selection process.

	Other Factor	Page #
	Community population is 10,000 or less	
	Federally recognized Indian tribe	
	United States territory	
	Applicant will assist a Tribe or territory	
	Targeted brownfield sites are impacted by mine-scarred land	
	Targeted brownfield sites are contaminated with controlled substances	
	Recent natural disaster(s) (2006 or later) occurred within community, causing significant community economic and environmental distress	
X	Project is primarily focusing on Phase II assessments.	7 & 13
X	Applicant demonstrates firm leveraging commitments for facilitating brownfield project completion by identifying amounts and contributors of funding in the proposal and have included documentation	8 & 9 attachment D
	Community experienced manufacturing plant closure(s) (2008 or later) tied to the targeted brownfield sites or project area, including communities experiencing auto plant closures due to bankruptcy or economic disruptions.	
	Recent (2008 or later) significant economic disruption (unrelated to a natural disaster or manufacturing/auto plant closure) has occurred within community, resulting in a significant percentage loss of community jobs and tax base.	
X	Applicant is a recipient or a core partner of a HUD-DOT-EPA Partnership for Sustainable Communities (PSC) grant that is directly tied to the project area, and can demonstrate that funding from a PSC grant has or will benefit the project area. To be considered, <u>applicant must attach documentation which demonstrates this connection to a HUD-DOT-EPA PSC grant.</u>	page 11 attachment G
X	Applicant is a recipient of an EPA Brownfields Area-Wide Planning grant	2. & 4
X	Community is implementing green remediation plans.	6
	Climate Change (also add to "V.D Other Factors")	

Attachment G: Documentation of HUD-DOT-EPA-PSC Grant



HUD NEWS

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development – Shaun Donovan, Secretary
Office of Public Affairs, Washington, DC 20410

HUD No. 10-233

Brian Sullivan

(202) 708-0685

<http://www.hud.gov/news/index.cfm>

FOR RELEASE

Thursday

October 14, 2010

HUD AWARDS NEARLY \$100 MILLION IN NEW GRANTS TO PROMOTE SMARTER AND SUSTAINABLE PLANNING FOR JOBS AND ECONOMIC GROWTH

Part of Obama Administration's Partnership for Sustainable Communities

WASHINGTON – For the first time ever, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) is awarding nearly \$100 million in new grants to support more livable and sustainable communities across the country. HUD Secretary Shaun Donovan today announced that 45 regional areas will receive funding through a new initiative intended to build economic competitiveness by connecting housing with good jobs, quality schools and transportation.

HUD's new *Sustainable Communities Regional Planning Grant Program* will support State, local, and tribal governments, as well as metropolitan planning organizations, in the development and execution of regional plans that integrate affordable housing with neighboring retail and business development (see attached list of grantees). Many of the grants will leverage existing infrastructure and all reward local collaboration and innovation.

"Regions that embrace sustainable communities will have a built-in competitive edge in attracting jobs and private investment," said Donovan. "Planning our communities smarter means parents will spend less time driving and more time with their children; more families will live in safe, stable communities near good schools and jobs; and more businesses will have access to the capital and talent they need to grow and prosper. In awarding these grants we were committed to using insight and innovation from our stakeholders and local partners to develop a 'bottom-up' approach to changing federal policy as opposed to 'top-down.' Rather than sticking to the old Washington playbook of dictating how communities can invest their grants, HUD's application process encouraged creative, locally focused thinking."

These grants are part of the Obama Administration's Partnership for Sustainable Communities, which brings EPA, HUD, USDA and DOT together to ensure that the agencies' policies, programs, and funding consider affordable housing, transportation, and environmental protection together. This interagency collaboration gets better results for communities and uses taxpayer money more efficiently. Coordinating federal investments in infrastructure, facilities, and services meets multiple economic, environmental, and community objectives with each dollar spent. The Partnership is helping communities across the country to create more housing choices, make transportation more efficient and reliable, reinforce existing investments, and support vibrant and healthy neighborhoods

-more-

HUD No. 10-233

Page 2

that attract businesses. At a time when every dollar the federal government invests in jumpstarting the economy is critical, the President's plan ensures that all these agencies are coordinating efforts and targeting resources with precision. Reflecting this new collaboration, these grants were judged by a multidisciplinary review team, drawn from eight federal agencies and from partners in philanthropy.

HUD's inaugural grants under this program will support metropolitan and multi-jurisdictional planning efforts that incorporate housing, land use, economic development, transportation and infrastructure. This holistic planning approach will benefit diverse areas across the U.S. including \$25.6 million split evenly between regions with populations less than 500,000 and rural places (fewer than 200,000 people). HUD is reserving \$2 million to help all of these areas build the needed capacity to execute their plans.

The grants are awarded through one of two categories. One category of grants will assist regional planning for sustainable development where such plans do not currently exist. A second category of funding will support the implementation of existing sustainability plans.

Shelley Poticha, the director of HUD's new Office of Sustainable Housing and Communities said, "The response to this program is huge. We were inundated with applications from every state and two territories – from central cities to rural areas and tribal governments. This program was designed by people from local government, and incorporated local input at every stage."

###

HUD's mission is to create strong, sustainable, inclusive communities and quality affordable homes for all. HUD is working to strengthen the housing market to bolster the economy and protect consumers; meet the need for quality affordable rental homes; utilize housing as a platform for improving quality of life; build inclusive and sustainable communities free from discrimination; and transform the way HUD does business. More information about HUD and its programs is available on the Internet at www.hud.gov and espanol.hud.gov.

Sustainable Communities Regional Planning Grant Finalists				
State	Grantee	Area	CAT	Grant Amount
Alabama	East Alabama Regional Planning and Development Commission	Anniston	1	\$225,000
Arizona	Apache County	St. Johns	1	\$820,500
Arkansas	Southern Bancorp Capital Partners	Helena-West Helena	1	\$710,900
California	California State University, Fresno Foundation	Fresno	2	\$4,000,000
	Sacramento Area Council of Governments	Sacramento	2	\$1,500,000
Connecticut	Capitol Region Council of Governments	Hartford	2	\$4,200,000
	Windham Region Council of Governments	Willimantic	1	\$225,000
Florida	South Florida Regional Planning Council	Hollywood	1	\$4,250,000
	Central Florida Regional Planning Council	Bartow	1	\$1,400,000
Illinois	Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning	Chicago	2	\$4,250,000
	Tri-County Regional Planning Commission	Peoria	2	\$1,200,000
	Rockford Metropolitan Agency for Planning	Rockford	1	\$600,000
Indiana	Evansville Metropolitan Planning Organization	Evansville	1	\$1,420,300
Iowa	Des Moines Area Metropolitan Planning Organization	Urbandale	1	\$2,200,000
Kentucky	University of Kentucky Research Foundation	Lexington	1	\$680,000
Maine	Greater Portland Council of Governments	Portland	1	\$1,600,000
Maine	Northern Maine Development Commission	Caribou	1	\$800,000
Massachusetts	Metropolitan Area Planning Council	Boston	2	\$4,000,000
	Berkshire Regional Planning Commission	Pittsfield	1	\$590,700
	Franklin Regional Council of Governments	Greenfield	1	\$425,000
Michigan	Southeast Michigan Council of Governments	Detroit	2	\$2,850,000
Minnesota	Metropolitan Council	St. Paul	2	\$5,000,000
	Region Five Development Commission	Staples	1	\$825,050
Mississippi	Gulf Regional Planning Commission	Gulfport	1	\$2,000,000
Missouri	East-West Gateway Council of Governments	Saint Louis	1	\$4,687,750
	Mid-America Regional Council	Kansas city	2	\$4,250,000
New York	Regional Plan Association Inc.	New York	2	\$3,500,000
North Carolina	Land-of-Sky Regional Council	Asheville	1	\$1,600,000
	Piedmont Authority for Regional Transportation	Greensboro	1	\$1,600,000
Ohio	Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency	Cleveland	1	\$4,250,000
Oregon	Lane Council of Governments	Eugene	2	\$1,450,000

South Dakota	Thunder Valley Community Development Corporation	Porcupine	1	\$996,100
Tennessee	City of Knoxville, Tennessee	Knoxville	1	\$4,327,500
Texas	Houston-Galveston Area Council	Houston	1	\$3,750,000
	Capital Area Council of Governments	Austin	2	\$3,700,000
Utah	Salt Lake County	Salt lake city	2	\$5,000,000
Vermont	Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission	Winooski	2	\$995,000
Virginia	New River Valley Planning District Commission	Radford	1	\$1,000,000
	Thomas Jefferson Planning District Commission	Charlottesville	2	\$999,000
	Roanoke Valley Alleghany Regional Commission	Roanoke	1	\$625,000
Washington	Puget Sound Regional Council	Seattle	2	\$ 4,999,700
	Thurston Regional Planning Council	Olympia	1	\$1,500,000
Wisconsin	Capital Area Regional Planning Commission	Madison	2	\$1,997,500
	Northwoods Nijili Enterprise Community, Inc.	Lac du Flambeau	1	\$525,000
	Southwestern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission	Platteville	1	\$475,000
Reserved for Capacity Building				\$2,000,000
				TOTAL \$ 100,000,000

Harry Conard - RE: Sustainable Communities

From: "John Mitterholzer" <jmitterholzer@gundfdn.org>
To: "Harry Conard" <hconard@cuyahogacounty.us>
Date: 4/13/2010 4:09 PM
Subject: RE: Sustainable Communities

Harry,

I have spoken to the GAR, Stark Community Foundation, and the Lorain Community Foundation and they are all interested in participating in the application process. They have also all agreed to reach out to the mayors of Canton, Akron, Lorain, and Elyria and to seek their support. So far, I have raised \$15k towards a facilitator and a grant writer.

John

From: Harry Conard [mailto:hconard@cuyahogacounty.us]
Sent: Tuesday, April 13, 2010 2:34 PM
To: John Mitterholzer
Subject: Re: Sustainable Communities

Since I am unable to send you an email direct, I wanted to share with you the email I just sent to K. Silliman in Jackson's office.

harry

Mr. Silliman,

I was asked by Jim McCafferty to send you this background email and attachment.

The attachment is HUD's Advance Notice and Request for Comment for a Sustainable Communities Planning Grant Program. This document served as the basis for conversations held at six locations around the nation. One session was held here in Cleveland on March 10th and sparked discussion on ways our region could work together and begin planning for Sustainable Growth. As you know, working together on regional issues is very new for governments in North East Ohio. The NOFA is expected to be issued in Mid-May will offer planning grants up to \$5 million to **Regional Collaborations**.

By its very size, such a grant would be a powerful stimulus to beginning that "working cooperatively conversation" and would build on the work of Voices and Choices, foundation initiatives, and new programming at Cleveland City Hall and in other communities in the region.

One small discussion group met at NOACA's offices to determine if seeking such a planning grant was feasible from the viewpoint of local foundations, the regional Metropolitan Planning Organizations, and local governments. No specific project or direction was even considered. There will another such meeting at NOACA on Tuesday, April 20th at 2:30 pm. We would welcome the City's participation.

Thank you for your time,

harry

Harry Conard, Jr.
Governmental Programs Administrator
Department of Development
112 Hamilton Ave, 4th fl
Cleveland, OH 44114
Office # 216.443.7260
Direct # 216.443.7531
Fax # 216.443.7260

>>> "John Mitterholzer" jmitterholzer@gundfdn.org > 4/5/2010 10:05 AM >>



Cleveland, Akron part of regional planning group that wins \$4.25 million 'sustainable communities' grant

Published: Friday, October 15, 2010, 1:04 PM Updated: Saturday, October 16, 2010, 7:51 AM



By **Tom Breckenridge, The Plain Dealer**



[View full size](#)

City Architecture

Transportation planners work extensively with diagrams like this one by City Architecture of Cleveland, showing proposed on- and off-ramps to the Inner Belt that were under discussion in 2008.

Updated at 4:15 p.m.

CLEVELAND, Ohio -- Regional planning focused on fortifying existing neighborhoods and linking people with jobs will be fueled by a \$4.25 million federal grant.

Twenty-one entities, including Cleveland, Akron, Canton and Youngstown, won a "sustainable communities" grant **announced today** by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

The effort "seeks to develop a comprehensive regional plan that can catalyze economic development and

support a healthy lifestyle for all of us," said Howard Maier, head of the **Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency**, a transportation planning group that was the lead applicant for the money.

The 21 entities are from 12 counties, stretching from the Mahoning Valley to Lorain. They formed a consortium that was among 45 winners nationwide of grants totaling \$100 million.

The grants are an effort by President Obama's administration to encourage federal agencies, and the regions that receive their money, to create more vital, diverse and connected communities.

Such communities attract skilled workers and the companies that want them, Shaun Donovan, secretary of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, said in an interview at The Plain Dealer.

Donovan announced the grant today at NOACA offices in downtown Cleveland, joined by Mayor Frank Jackson and U.S. Reps. Marcia Fudge and Dennis Kucinich, Democrats from Cleveland, and Tim Ryan, from Niles.

HUD will join the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Department of Transportation in overseeing the grants.

A major thrust will be planning that encourages people to live closer to where they work, thereby reducing transportation costs, relieving highway congestion and improving the environment, Donovan said.

"The problem historically has been that more and more development has spread out in an uncoordinated way," Donovan said. "We haven't planned transportation investments so that they connect housing to jobs."

HUD, EPA and the Department of Transportation send tens of millions of dollars a year to cities, counties and planning agencies in Northeast Ohio for programs and projects, especially in housing and transportation.

But the local jurisdictions rarely plan together to ensure the big investments sustain the entire region, rather than help some communities and hurt others.

Locally, planners said they'd like to see strategies encouraging communities to unify in the global competition for business, rather than against each other.

"I don't think it will be a panacea," Jason Segedy, director of the **Akron-area transportation-planning group**, said of the planning effort. "If we don't change the world, that's OK. But if we can make a better land-use decision in one community, that's a very worthwhile thing."

The grant could help Northeast Ohio move beyond the rhetoric of regionalism, said Chris Warren, chief of regional development for Cleveland.

"This will provide a structured, disciplined way to pursue real, tangible approaches to regional cooperation," Warren said.

Northeast Ohio Consortium members

A group of 20 public and private entities, called the Northeast Ohio Consortium for a Regional Plan for Sustainable Development, has landed a \$4.25 million federal grant to set regional priorities in land use, fair housing, transportation, economic development and environmental protection.

Members of the group are: Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency, Akron Metropolitan Area Transportation Study, Eastgate Regional Council of Governments, Stark County Regional Planning Commission/Stark County Area Transportation Study, Cuyahoga County, Lorain County, Mahoning County, Stark County, Summit County, Trumbull County, Akron, Canton, Cleveland, Warren, Youngstown, Akron Metropolitan Housing Authority, Cleveland State University Maxine Goodman Levin College of Urban Affairs, Cuyahoga Metropolitan Housing Authority, Fund for Our Economic Future Regional Prosperity Initiative and Stark Metropolitan Housing Authority.

The **Fund for Our Economic Future**, a group of nonprofits investing millions of dollars in regional development, supplied \$25,000 to put the grant application together.

"This is a huge deal," said Brad Whitehead, president of the future fund. "It's really the first time that the region has been able to come together to win a federal grant of this proportion and dimension."

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Harry Conard - Re: Sustainable Communities

From: James McCafferty
To: Conard, Harry; Oyaski, Paul
Date: 4/5/2010 1:43 PM
Subject: Re: Sustainable Communities

Agreed.

James McCafferty, MSSA
Cuyahoga County Administrator
County Administration Building
1219 Ontario Street, 4th Floor
Cleveland, Ohio 44113
Phone: (216) 443-7215
Fax: (216) 443-8088
Email: jmccafferty@cuyahogacounty.us
Website: www.cuyahogacounty.us



Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail

>>> Paul Oyaski 4/5/2010 1:23 PM >>>
This would be a good regional initiative. po

>>> Harry Conard 4/5/2010 1:22 PM >>>

I wanted to brief you on a pre-application discussion that was held on April 1st at NOACA's offices. In attendance were John Mitterholzer, representing the Gund Foundation, Howard Maier, Executive Director of NOACA and two of his staff, Douglas Shelby, Director of HUD's Cleveland Office, and myself.

HUD will be issuing a Notice of Funding Availability for three tiers of planning grants. Our area should seek a Tier 1 grant up to \$5 million for those regions/areas that have yet to develop a regional plan to promote sustainable communities. Such a grant would **assist regional collaborations - definition yet to be precisely determined.**

Mitterholzer from Gund had just met with Shelley Poticha, Director of HUD's Office of Sustainable Housing and Communities at a meeting in Pittsburgh. Poticha recognizes that this is a difficult issue for areas in the Midwest that have been hard hit with job losses. But our group agreed that obtaining such a grant would greatly assist in kick starting regional planning.

This White House is convinced that for regions to flourish, they must begin to plan on regional scales and these funds are designed to initiate that very difficult conversation. A successful application from this area would need the support of philanthropic organizations, the regional planning organizations, one applicant experienced in successfully handling HUD grants. (Potentially the County's role) as well as the involvement of the four major cities in the region - Cleveland, Canton, Akron, and Cleveland. Youngstown's mayor is on record supporting such a regional planning effort.

Additional preplanning sessions would be used to identify areas of mutual interests that would then be placed into the application. Clearly stand alone applications from individual cities or counties will not be well received or funded.

The Gund Foundation has indicated an interest in financially supporting the preparation of the application.